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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE.

For the Athenæum.

ON CRYING FUDGE.

In Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield," when Lady Blarney and Miss Carolina Wilhelmina Amelia Skeggs are holding a dialogue before the simple and unsuspecting family at the parsonage, for the purpose of passing for women of high fashion and consequence, Mr. Burchell, who is one of the hearers, responds to every sentence with a half-audible *fudge*. This concise mode of disconcerting the pretensions of falsehood and ostentation has always highly pleased me; and extending the idea to all similar cases in the occurrences of life, I have been led to consider the faculty of *crying fudge* in the proper place, as one of the most decisive marks of penetration and good sense. I say, in the *proper place*, because a fudge applied at random is often only a proof of folly or ignorance; and it is a very easy way of getting rid of a fact we do not like, or an argument we do not understand, to exclaim, "it is all fudge." The legitimate application of this formula I take to be, when impudence, imposture, weakness, or enthusiasm, make demands upon our acquiescence which, to a thinking and instructed mind, appear manifestly absurd, and not worth a serious refutation.

Examples of this kind meet our eyes in the columns of every newspaper, and the pages of every literary journal. When we read advertisements in which schemes of great profit without hazard are offered to the public by persons who have not been able to keep themselves out of a gaol—puffs of inventions by which cent. per cent. may be saved in articles of common use—florid panegyrics of institutions the chief results of which have been to provide a few snug places for officers—short roads to the most abstruse sciences—clear elucidations of things in their nature incomprehensible—theories and systems warranted new upon topics as old as human speculation—it requires but a

moderate share of the salutary scepticism derived from experience, to oppose these attacks upon our credulity by a *fudge*, and thereby prevent a waste of time or money.

It is, however, surprizing to see how liable even men of the world are to be taken in by projects addressed to their love of gain, when a little consideration of probabilities would convince them that the flattering statements of speculators could be nothing but fallacy. The single circumstance of the apparent disinterestedness of some of these plans might be sufficient, one would think, to awaken the suspicions of those who are conscious that they themselves would be capable of no such sacrifices. This was taken in a proper light by the emperor, who, when applied to for some pecuniary aid by a pretended alchemist, answered him by the *practical fudge* of the present of an empty purse, telling him at the same time, that since he knew so well how to fill it, he could want nothing else.

It is less astonishing that men of letters, unhackneyed in the ways of the world, should be prone to fall into delusions; though the grossness of some successful cheats cannot but appear extraordinary, and affords a melancholy proof how little the art of *crying fudge* in due season is understood. Some centuries ago a noted controversy was carried on among the German erudites concerning a golden tooth said to have been cut in the gums of a child in Silesia; in which none of the disputants ever thought of applying a fudge to the pretended fact, but employed all their acumen in maintaining theories to account for it. The human mind, perhaps, has made so much advance since that period, that such a story would not now obtain credit enough to become a subject of disquisition; yet the age and country in which thieves are tried by feeling their skulls, must not loudly boast of its illumination. If the theosophy of Behmen, the philosophy of Kant, the physiognomy of Lavater, and the craniology of Gall, had in their outset been encountered by a timely fudge, how much would it have lightened the carriage of books to the Leipzig and Frankfort fairs! But it is remarkable that our German neighbours seem not to have the least notion of fudging; for there cannot be a proposition so extravagant, or a system so incomprehensible, as not to appear to them worthy of a serious discussion, especially if promulgated by a grave doctor or professor. The French, on the other hand, though prone enough themselves to build shadowy systems, are very ready to treat the speculations of others with a decisive fudge. When D'Alembert (who was, indeed, no visionary, but a man *emunctæ naris*) was told of a philosopher who had made great discoveries in physics and metaphysics, he exclaimed, "Des decouvertes dans la metaphysique—*bah!*" which interjection I take to be exactly equivalent to *fudge*.

There is a variety of petty attempts upon the credulity of the simple which require nothing but a fudge to defeat them. Thus, the language of dedications, in which men known to the world only by their titles, are cried up as the most exquisite judges and munificent patrons of literature, seldom needs any other annotation than this monosyllable

ble—indeed, the deception here does not often extend much beyond the dedicatee himself. Verbose epitaphs, ascribing to the defunct an assemblage of excellencies which never met in any individual, and entombing with the tears of a whole country, persons whom the country was glad to be rid of, provoke the same note of dissent; which (give me leave to observe) would also occasionally not be misapplied to articles in magazine obituaries. Fudge, I acknowledge, is not a very pretty word from a female mouth; yet if the fair were habituated to apply it, mentally at least, to the hyperbolical compliments and rapturous protestations of lovers, it might cut short some of those scenes which cannot be protracted without a degree of hazard. In return, they must not take it amiss if affected coyness and coquetry are treated with as little ceremony.

I might proceed to shew that this word is the true specific against the effects of all those species of cant which a late correspondent of your's has enumerated; but least, by dwelling too long upon the subject, I should elicit an impatient fudge from some of your readers, I conclude, Sir,

Yours, &c. NASO.

DESCRIPTION OF THE FEROE ISLANDS.

(Continued.)

The winds act a distinguished part among the mountains of Feroe, and form a striking contrast with the whispering gales and cooling zephyrs which are so much celebrated by the poets. They descend from the hills to the sea shore; raise clouds of sand into the air, and convey it to a distance along the bays and creeks. Sometimes they sweep away large stones lying on the hills, and roll them before them like a ball,* or tear out huge masses of the projecting rocks, which then fall down, emitting flames and smoke.† On these occasions they shave off the turf from the sides of the hills, roll it together like a sheet of lead, and precipitate it into the vallies. The hurricanes in Feroe inspire travellers with the utmost terror; when their approach is announced by their bellowing noise among the hills, if on horseback, they must immediately dismount, and if on foot, they must fall flat on the earth, to avoid being thrown down or dashed to pieces. These winds often make the houses of the natives shake; and it is very remarkable that before a hurricane, the pressure of the air causes a cracking

* This was the case with an uncommonly large stone lying on one of the hills in Stromoe, over which the road passes from Segnaboe to Thorshavn.

† The author says, that this frequently happens on the west side of the hill called *Skælling*. It is, indeed, possible, that sparks elicited by the collision of the falling mass against the rocks may set fire to some sulphureous or other inflammable matter which it meets with in its course, and thus produce fire and smoke.

cracking and crashing in the house, as if it would tumble down; but when the wind really takes place, it has already exhausted its strength, so that the building remains firm and secure. Sometimes, however, the wind rises with increased violence, and in that case it often forces the house from its position, tears off the roof, shatters the window frames, and, entering below the bottom of it, forces up the flooring, and agitates in a violent manner the stool on which one sits, or the bed in which one is lying. Such are the hurricanes which prevail in Feroe in the autumn and spring.

The storms which come from the open sea are violent, but in general steady, and therefore not so terrible; but when they fall obliquely on the sides of the hills, they acquire double force by being reflected, and especially those which come from the hills or the defiles between them, when by the accession of other winds they are increased and forced down into the vallies. They then endeavour to escape from their confined situation with the most dreadful impetuosity, and produce sudden gusts which occasion the greatest devastation: it is very remarkable that both before and after such gusts so dead a calm often prevails, that a person may carry a lighted candle in the open air without its being extinguished.

It cannot be determined which wind in general is the most violent and dangerous in Feroe, unless it be the north wind; but this depends on the situation of the place, and on the hills by which it is surrounded. A wind may, therefore, be violent and dangerous for one village, and not for another which is sheltered from it; nay, according to the direction which the wind takes between and along the sides of the hills, one part of the village may be more exposed to its violence than another. In such places, the inhabitants, when they observe a storm approaching from a dangerous quarter, endeavour to be prepared for it. They place boards on the roofs of their houses, throw a few ropes over them, and to the ends of the ropes fasten large stones, as heavy as the ropes can bear. By these means the roof is rendered more secure, and fitted to withstand the violence of the storm.

The duration of the summer is very short in Feroe; but the mild though variable spring weather takes place the sooner, and makes up for the precipitate retreat of the summer. In October violent stormy winds prevail; but the real winter, accompanied with frost and snow, seldom begins before November; yet the weather in this month is often so mild, that the cattle can remain in the open fields till within a week or two of Christmas.

Thunder is much less frequent here than in Denmark. When it bursts near or over a village, its noise, increased by the echo from the hills, is awful and majestic; but the same hills which increase its noise keep it, as it were, confined, so that in other places it is scarcely heard. No injury is ever done by the lightning in these islands. The ignis-fatuus is not unknown in Feroe, but I consider this phenomenon here as a kind of lightning without thunder.

The northern lights *(aurora borealis)* are often seen, and particularly

larly in the winter, but it is not uncommon to observe them also in the month of August. Sometimes they are accompanied with a snapping noise, but I do not think that they are brighter than in Denmark. They extend either from the west and north-west towards the east, or from the east and north-east towards the west: their colour is bluish-yellow, yellow or red, but seldom blue and green.

Shooting stars are common; but fire-balls are seldom seen, and the case is the same in respect to Will-o'-the-wisp, which burns like a candle in marshy places, but soon disappears.

The Feroe islands at present are almost entirely destitute of wood, but this does not appear to have been the case formerly. At any rate, the coals found in Suderoe give reason to suppose that they once contained wood, for in my opinion there can be no doubt that these coals are composed of burnt wood, impregnated with rock-oil. I have even seen pieces of this coal, one end of which was coal and the other real wood, as was readily perceived by its fibres and veins. This great quantity of wood, then, must either have been driven to these islands from another country by some convulsion of nature, or it must have grown on the spot. If the latter supposition, which seems the most probable, be admitted, there must have been a great change, besides the revolution which has thrown large hills on the place where the coal is now found, in the climate of Feroe.

At what time this revolution happened cannot now be determined; but that a change has taken place in the climate there is great reason to presume; for the natives, while digging for turf, frequently find trunks of the juniper tree, from four to six ells in length, and as thick as a man's arm, which are neither black nor rotten, but still flexible and elastic, and of an ash-grey colour. But juniper trees of such a size are found no where growing in Feroe at present, and have not been seen for several centuries past. If they, therefore, existed formerly, why should they not grow at present, unless a change has been produced in the climate? Attempts have been made at different times to introduce wood into these islands, by planting bushes and trees of various kinds, but they have for the most part been attended with very little success.

The black cattle in Feroe are small, because the calves, when reared, are fed too sparingly, and no care is taken to improve the breed. Little or no trade, indeed, is carried on with cattle, for few of the natives wish or are in a condition to rear more than they have occasion for themselves.

About a fortnight after Michaelmas the cows are taken into the house, but in the day time they are turned out into the fields as long as the weather will permit, which is often the case till Christmas. When first housed, they are fed with the worst and coarsest hay, the finest being reserved for them till they have calved. When kept continually in the house, very little care is taken of them: about ten or eleven o'clock in the forenoon they are milked; the cow-house is then cleaned, and a large armful of hay is thrown before each of them, and

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this is their whole allowance till the same time the next day. About two in the afternoon they are driven out to water, but if the weather be bad, the water is carried to them; and at nine or ten at night they are milked again. With such treatment, it needs excite no surprise that the cows in Feroe should yield very little milk. A good milch cow gives seldom more than two quarts at a time, or four quarts a day, though experience shews, that with proper treatment they might be made to give double that quantity. In every village a bull is kept; but small villages, which lie at no great distance from each other, keep one in common.

In consequence of the steepness of the roads, the milk maids are not able to carry their pails on their heads, but on their backs. These pails, therefore, are of a longish form, and, instead of a lid, they are covered with a tanned lamb's skin, which is tied round them, and is better calculated to prevent the milk from running over. The pail is furnished with two ears, through which passes a rope, made of wool, plaited together; and this rope, which serves to support the pail, is thrown over the breast a little below the arm-pits. In order that the jolting of the pail may not hurt the back, a piece of coarse cloth is fastened round the neck and suffered to hang down below it. A milk-maid in these islands undertakes sometimes to milk for two, three, or four of her neighbours; but as the milk of one or two cows is very small, and as the pails are also small, it is not uncommon to see a girl walking along with two or three pails on her back, two or three dangling on her arms, and at the same time knitting a stocking.

The Feroe horses are small and have thick drooping heads; they are generally of a fox colour, but a few of them are almost black. These animals are much neglected, for the natives seldom think of them except when they want to use them: they remain out in the fields summer and winter; they become, therefore, somewhat rough-haired, and when the earth in winter is covered with hard snow, they must scrape away the snow to search for their food. They are not used for drawing, but for bearing burdens. In spring they are employed to carry out the dung to the fields; during a month or six weeks in summer they bring home the turf, and when they have performed this service, they must be lent to those who have no horses of their own to bring home their fuel: in this manner these animals, as long as the weather permits, must labour four or five days every week, so that their backs at length become chafed; and as they have no shoes, their feet are rendered so sore that they can scarcely walk. During the period of their labour very little attention is paid to them; in the afternoon, when their work is ended, their fore legs are tied together, to prevent them from running away, and they are then suffered to hop about in the fields in search of their scanty food.

In Stromoe and the hilly plains of Nordenfield the horses are rather sluggish and slow; in Vagoe, and particularly in Suderoe, they are more lively and active, but they are every where sure-footed. On the sides of the high hills, where there is scarcely a narrow path for men

men and sheep, and from which the traveller looks down with terror into a deep valley, or to the sea roaring at a great distance below him, he rides secure on the Feroe horse without any dread of his stumbling; and the animal will climb up precipices so steep, that persons well accustomed to riding would, in such a situation, be afraid to hang on his back. In bogs and quag-mires, which appear solid, but are not really so, a Feroe horse, especially an old one, cannot by any means be forced to advance, when he sees them or smells them before him, unless he thinks himself able to clear the dangerous place by making a sudden spring.

When the peasants mount on horseback they use, instead of saddles, a piece of coarse woollen cloth, folded together and fastened round the horse's belly with a rope; persons of better condition have saddles.

(To be continued.)

ACCOUNT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

I OBSERVE that topographical information, when it is of a nature likely either to instruct or amuse, is readily admitted into your interesting miscellany. Of this I highly approve, as knowledge of this kind cannot be more agreeably or usefully acquired than through the channel of a respectable periodical work. To study statistics regularly and systematically, requires more patience and resolution than fall to the lot of the greater part of the reading public; and after all, a regular body of this kind of knowledge comprehends so many trifling and uninteresting particulars, that the time required to master it would be on the whole unprofitably employed. Of this any one may satisfy himself who should look at a catalogue of the various county and city histories now before the public, most of which are contained in volumes of no little ponderosity. If in any science selection is desirable, it is surely in that of statistics, where, with a great deal of dross, there is mixed a reasonable portion of sterling ore. In such a work as yours the ore may be from time to time extracted; freed from its inherent impurities, and exhibited to the eyes of the public in such proportion and shape as may tend to make it extremely acceptable.

In order to contribute my mite towards this desirable object, I offer for your acceptance the following statistical sketch of an ancient seat of learning, in a remote part of the kingdom, which may serve as a supplement or continuation of the account you have already given us of two respectable Scottish universities, those of Edinburgh and of Glasgow. The seminary I have in view is that of Aberdeen.

It is by no means generally known, or attended to, that there are in Aberdeen

Aberdeen two universities, absolutely distinct and independent of each other. Such, however, is the fact; for the King's College, which is in the old town, is nowise connected with the Marishall College, which is in the new. These learned corporations were founded by different persons, and at very distant periods of time; each has the sole controul over its own funds and its own members, and each has an independent exercise of all the university privileges, such as nominating its own chancellor and vice-chancellor, promoting its students to the various degrees in arts, and creating doctors in the faculties of divinity, law, and medicine. This appears an extraordinary circumstance, especially to an Englishman, who naturally thinks it strange that the town of Aberdeen, in Scotland, should contain as many universities as the whole of England put together; and the singularity of the circumstance has tended to keep it out of general view; for it is common to speak of the *Aberdeen university* as if it were but a single corporation, like that of Glasgow or Edinburgh.

The King's college and university was founded by William Elphinstone, bishop of Aberdeen and chancellor to king James IV., who, by consent of his royal master, procured in the year 1494 a bull from pope Alexander VI., of notorious memory, endowing the future seminary with as ample privileges and immunities as any university in Christendom, and with a particular reference to the privileges enjoyed by Paris and Bononia; after the model of which the Aberdeen university was to be constituted. A papal bull was then deemed essential to the erection of such a seminary of learning; and that there might be no deficiency of this kind of authority, the privileges of the new university were afterwards confirmed by popes Julius II. Clement VII. Leo X. and Paul II., as well as by king James IV. and his successors. It was in 1500 that the college was actually founded by bishop Elphinstone, and called King's College, in honour of his royal patron. The persons endowed were, a doctor in theology, who was also principal; a doctor of the common law, a doctor of the civil law, and a doctor of physic; a sub-principal, who taught philosophy; a professor of humanity, who taught grammar; a cantor, sacrist, organist, and various students in divinity, law, and physic, certain of whom were to perform the office of teachers. Various changes have by degrees taken place in the number and offices of the professors of this university; at present they amount to ten. A provost or principal, who rarely, if ever, lectures; a sub-principal, who lectures on some department of science—at present, I believe, on mathematics; a professor of humanity, who teaches Latin; a professor of Greek, a professor of natural philosophy, a professor of moral philosophy and logic, a professor of divinity, a professor of oriental languages, a professor of law, and a professor of medicine; of which the two last have not for a long time delivered lectures. A chancellor and vice-chancellor or rector of the university are elected by the professors; but during the continuance of episcopacy in Scotland, the bishop of Aberdeen was chancellor ex officio.

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The Marishall college and university was founded and endowed by George earl Marishall of Scotland, in the year 1593. Its original members consisted only of a principal, three regents or masters in philosophy and languages, six bursars or scholars, an œconomus and cook. It contains now, a principal, a professor of divinity, (both of which offices are at present held by the same person), a professor of Greek, a professor of natural history, a professor of natural philosophy, a professor of moral philosophy and logic, a professor of mathematics, a professor of oriental languages, a professor of medicine, and a lecturer in chemistry. It has also a chancellor and rector, who are elected by the corporation.

Both seminaries have produced several eminent literary characters. The first principal of King's college was Hector Boece or Boethius, whom bishop Elphinstone brought purposely from Paris to preside in his new institution, and appointed him a salary of forty Scottish marks, about two pounds four shillings and sixpence sterling money, per annum. This learned man enjoyed the friendship of Erasmus while he studied at Paris, and received from that celebrated character the public testimony of esteem of having inscribed to him a catalogue of his works. He was the author of a chronicle or history of Scotland, and of the lives of the Bishops of Mortlach and Aberdeen, both written in Latin. Boethius is thus characterised by Dr. Johnson as a historical writer: "The style of Boethius, though, perhaps, not always rigorously pure, is formed with great diligence upon ancient models, and wholly uninfected with monastic barbarity. His history is written with elegance and vigour, but his fabulousness and credulity are justly blamed. His fabulousness, if he was the author of the fictions, is a fault for which no apology can be made; but his credulity may be excused in an age when all men were credulous. Learning was then rising on the world; but ages, so long accustomed to darkness, were too much dazzled with its light to see any thing distinctly. The first race of scholars in the fifteenth century, and some time after, were, for the most part, learning to speak rather than to think, and were, therefore, more studious of elegance than of truth. The contemporaries of Boethius thought it sufficient to know what the ancients had delivered. The examination of tenets and of facts was reserved for another generation." *(Tour through Scotland).*

There is extant in the Bodleian library of Oxford, a manuscript History of Scotland, in the hand writing of bishop Elphinstone, which was long supposed to be an original work, but is found, upon examination, to be no other than a transcript of Fordun's *Scotichronicon*.

Dr. Johnson, speaking of Marishall college, informs us, that "one of the ornaments of its hall is the picture of Arthur Johnson, who was principal of the college, and who holds among the Latin poets of Scotland the next place to the elegant Buchanan." Of this gentleman's poetry I happen to have it in my power to present you with a specimen, from which, I am afraid, you will be disposed to assert, that his

namesake has given him fully as favourable a character as he deserves.

Arthuri Johnstoni epigramma de Aberdonia urbe.

Cum populo quisquis *Romanam* suspicis urbem
Et mundi dominam deliciasque vocas;
Confer *Aberdoniam*, *Thylis* hanc servilibus undis
Alluit, urbs famulo nec procul illa mari est.
Utraque fulta jugis subjectos despicit amnes:
Utraque fulminea spirat ab arce minas.
Illa suos *Fabios* invictaque fulmina belli
Scipiadas jactat, *Cæsariamque* domum.
Mennesios urbs hæc proceres, gentemque *Culenam*,
Et *Collissonios*, *Lausoniosque* patres.
Urbe *Quirinali* minor est urbs *Grampica;* cives
Sunt tamen Hic animis ingeniisque pares.

That your readers may not lose any of the beauties of this classical effusion, I subjoin an English version of its latter half, which came from the pen of the Rev. Mr. John Barclay, of Cruden, a Scottish poet of that age.

Rome of her *Fabii* and unconquer'd hosts,
Of *Scipios* and of great *Cæsars* boasts.
This CITY of her *Menzieses* great worth,
Of *Cullens* and of *Lawsons* here brought forth,
And *Collisons*, all men of great esteem:
Of these she boasts, these doth her glory deem.
If bigness may 'mongst praises reck'ned be,
Rome is, indeed, of greater bulk than she:
But in all gifts, and ornaments of mind,
Rome may her equals in THIS CITY find.

Your readers will, probably, be fully satisfied at this time with the specimens of northern literature I have here set down for them. If my present communication pleases their tastes, I may probably take some future opportunity of offering a few observations on the more modern examples of literary eminence which the Aberdeen universities have produced.

Meanwhile I remain your obedient servant,

VIATOR.

MR. HOPE ON THE IMITATIVE ARTS.

IMITATIVE arts I conceive to be those arts which, like painting and sculpture, offer to the sense the external forms and colors of bodies; and those sister arts which, like epic and dramatic poetry, present to the intellect the internal affections and workings of the mind. And egregious, I think, are the mistakes that have been made, both with regard to the source whence flows the peculiar pleasure which we derive from the productions of the imitative arts; and with regard to what arts are, or are not, in their very essence and nature, of the imitative sort. These misconceptions, on either subject, have led to inferences and proceedings most prejudicial to the end and purposes of those arts: for which reason I shall try to detect and to point them out.

Firstly, with regard to the source whence flows the peculiar pleasure which we derive from the productions of the imitative arts, let me begin by asking, what alone should be understood by the word imitation? It can only be, I apprehend, the endeavour to produce a resemblance of some given object of nature or of art, through means of a process, of an agent, or of materials totally different from those employed in the formation of the original.

I say, through means of a process, of an agent, or of materials totally different from those employed in the formation of the original: for without this condition, and while two distinct objects still only both remain the productions of the same workman, the same tools, the same ingredients; while the one is not yet the offspring of an agent, of a process, of materials totally different from the other, the latter may be a repetition, a duplicate of the former; as one Birmingham button is the counterpart of another similar button cast before in the same mould, but it is not yet what is meant by the word imitation.

Now, all such endeavour at producing a resemblance of a peculiar object, by means of a totally different combination, is capable, when recognized and when successful, of affording a peculiar kind of pleasure, in no way depending on the intrinsic merit or beauty of the original, but solely and entirely arising from the essential properties of imitation—namely, from the similitude which we discover between two productions nearly allied in their appearance and yet widely distant in their elements; and from the admiration we feel of the ingenuity displayed in producing the similitude.

I say, when recognised; for sometimes the paltriest daubs or contrivances, so placed as to take us by surprise, or to elude our minute scrutiny, may produce a deception which the finest works of art, accompanied as they deserve, cannot hope to effect. Sometimes wooden fish in a pond, waxen fruit on a plate, pasteboard sentries at a gate, pseudo-ghosts in a church-yard, may pass for realities, where a figure by Raphael or a landscape by Claude must confess the paint and can-

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vas. But, as is obvious, while this deception lasts, while we continue to take the imitation for the reality itself, we cannot derive from the contemplation of that copy any other impression than precisely what we would have derived from the sight of the original under the same circumstances; and the impression resulting from what is believed to be a reality and that from what is known to be an imitation, may often be so totally opposite, that we shall shrink with horror from the snake, taken to be of flesh and blood, on whom we would have gazed with delight, had we found out the impostor of mere wood or stone. That peculiar species of pleasure which flows from the consideration of the difficulties overcome and of the powers displayed in the imitation, depending entirely on our knowing the copy to be an actual copy, a mere fac simile, brought about by an operation totally different from that whence sprung the original, so far from being capable of receiving any increase of intensity from illusion, is totally incompatible with illusion. It can only commence when the illusion ceases, when the truth breaks in upon us. If, sometimes, as cannot be denied, the circumstance of our having been for an instant deceived by an imitation good or bad, makes us afterwards, on discovering our error, feel a pleasure of a more lively kind; if we are doubly delighted on being ushered into a splendid temple, after thinking our progress obstructed by a paltry wood-pile; this is only because the momentary deception, when it subsides, leaves behind it a stronger pledge of the accuracy of the resemblance, or of the ingenuity of the disposition. But still does not this greater pleasure, resulting from a prior illusion, begin while that illusion itself yet continues in full force. It only begins when that illusion vanishes, like the morning mist that hid the sun. Those that think otherwise must confound their own triumph at the success of their deception, with the feelings of the person deceived.

Every day, however, we see this general truth, namely, of the pleasure which flows from imitation being totally independent of illusion, confined in its application to the solitary instance of a single art; neglected in that of every other, even those most akin to the one in question. In sculpture all know well what little pleasure is derived from mere illusion. No one requires in a statue that addition of colouring, through means of which might so easily be obtained a most complete deception. Nay, many even most strenuously condemn that colouring, on the sole ground of the danger of producing such illusion: and yet in painting, and above all, in the drama, many seem entirely to forget what little gratification can arise from mere deception. Here we constantly talk of nothing but illusion. Here we attribute exclusively to illusion the tears drawn by a Kemble or a Siddons, as if these never dropped even over a most palpable fiction; over a story of a mouse or a turtle-dove, when pathetically told. Here we even refer to the mere imaginary necessity of producing an illusion, those laws of the Unities which Aristotle only founded on the real importance of rendering the impression of the imitative events more connected,

nected, more condensed, and more concentrated in one single powerful focus. Here we seem totally unaware that that scene of drunkenness or death, whose faithful imitation gives an emotion in which pleasure preponderates, would, if we thought it real, produce a sensation of mere unmixed disgust or horror.

The pleasure derivable from imitation owes to its being entirely exonerated from all obligation to deceive, a most extensive sphere. Its dawn may begin with the faintest copy of the most insignificant original; even with the outline of a chrystal displayed in a paper cutting: and from so feeble a commencement, it may encrease in an indefinite progression. It will become more intense, more varied, more lasting, more solidly founded on a more extensive basis, in proportion as the employment of materials more stubborn, more intractable and more different in their properties from the elements of the original, shew in the artist greater manual dexterity; and above all, in proportion as the choice of an original more varied, more complicate, and yet more definite in the different particulars of its external formation, that require to be attended to and retraced in the copy, evince in the performer greater intellectual powers. The more considerable the number and the diversity of imitable points of the model which are transferred to the imitation, the more difficult, and at the same time, the more complete, in its very character as an imitation, that peculiar imitation must be; and though the mere forms divested of colors, to which sculpture usually confines its attempts, and the mere colors destitute of relief, to which painting commonly limits its exhibitions, are already each separately capable, when carried to a great perfection, of giving a most intense pleasure; still, so far from my being able to discover any new principle, contradictory to those hereabove stated, upon which these two sister arts, which already afford such high gratification, while their labours remain carefully confined within entirely distinct provinces, should afford less delight, were their exertions to be combined, in an equal degree of excellence, in a single production, I can only, from every one of those principles alledged, infer quite the reverse. I can only suppose that, by their cordial union, their judicious co-operation in the same performance, they would yield an increased pleasure; as long as through that union they did not produce any actual deception—which deception itself, after all, even where momentarily produced, could not be of long duration, or much retard our delight.

And in the way in which I am disposed to think on this subject, the ancients seemed to think, during the most flourishing period of the fine arts. It is true, the Greeks left many of their statues and basreliefs uncoloured; probably when the artist felt not his own talent as painter equal to his genius as sculptor; when he was averse to letting a brother artist of condign excellence share with him the glory of his work, or could not find any such; when, from the exposed situation of the performance, the coat of colour spread over the uneven surface might be liable to suffer in parts, and to destroy the effect even of the relief;

relief; or when, finally, from the nature of the locality intended to be adorned, its inanimate imitations risked, if rendered too like the animated originals, the being confounded with the surrounding multitude. But it is not less true, that in their greatest chef-d'œuvres, whether destined for worship or simply for ornament, whether intended for the temple or merely for the gallery, these same Greeks were happy to add the beauties of imitative colour to the beauties of imitative form, whenever a Phidias could find in his nephew Panaenus, or a Praxiteles in his friend Nicias, a worthy partner to complete the arduous task. Nor should we childishly infer that we cannot reasonably be delighted with the union of painting and sculpture in the same performance, even were both excellent in their kind, merely because we happen not to be pleased with their combination in painted dolls or in coloured wax-work, which are bad as paintings, and are worse as sculpture.

If the pleasure which we derive from imitation offers no connection whatever with any illusion produced by the copy, it presents not either any direct dependance on the degree of merit and beauty which may or may not reside in the original. This pleasure, directly connected only with the difficulty inherent in the imitation itself, and with the attainment of the resemblance, may result from the successful copy of the most hideous deformity, as well as from that of the most transcendant charms.

Still, as the imitation of the superior bloom and vividness, and yet blending and transparency of hues; of the superior symmetry and definiteness, and yet variety and rounding of forms; of the superior energy and distinctness, and yet ease and suppleness of motion, that are displayed by the more youthful and perfect individuals of every class, is a species of imitation which offers difficulties of selection, of combination, and of execution, far beyond those offered by the imitation of the more opaque and dusky tints, more vague, indeterminate, broken forms, more abrupt and uncertain and hobbling movements, that are exhibited by the more imperfect and decayed models of each reign; the former species of imitation will, even in its mere character as an imitation, and independent of all associated ideas, foreign to imitation and directly relating only to the original, afford to the intelligent and exalted mind a delight as far above the latter, as the smiling Venus of Praxiteles soars above the reaching boor of Ostade—and no imitations are so fascinating, none give such intense pleasure, as those ideal representations, which singly and individually display the whole assemblage of those harmonising beauties, belonging to each species, that only in nature's wide range are found divided among numerous widely-dispersed individuals, concentrated in one single artificial focus, where, purified from all admixture of those analogous defects, through which, in the original, their effect is diminished or destroyed, they shine with unimpaired and with spotless lustre.

(The remainder in our next.)

ON MERCANTILE BIOGRAPHY.

THE statesman, the orator, the poet, the lawyer, the physician, the divine, have all had their biographers, and lives of the greatest merit have been produced in all these departments. We have beheld private principle developed in open conduct, and small beginnings terminating in success both lasting and extensive. We have seen the ardour of native genius successfully contending with adversity; and have been instructed by the wisdom of the wise, the caution of the prudent, the weakness of the feeble, and the errors of the good. But such is our eager curiosity to become acquainted with all the varieties of human character, that we have to regret that the biography of a certain description of men, eminent in this country, should yet remain a desideratum in our national literature. England may certainly be considered as the greatest commercial country in the world; and it would be very desirable to be put in possession of facts and anecdotes illustrative of the character of her merchants. In the investigations that would be necessary to accomplish a respectable *Mercantile Biography*, the moving principles of human action would be developed to a considerable extent; and the efficacy of situations, in modelling the character, would be placed in a point of view at once conspicuous and definite. The subject itself is capable of great variety, as it embraces a part of our species, among whom there is the greatest diversity of talent, disposition, and conduct. To *some* literary men, who look down from their own ideal eminence with a supercilious contempt on every thing but what are called the liberal professions, it is possible that a subject like that now recommended to public attention, may not possess those attractions that would please their fastidious taste. What (they will be ready to say) are we to expect from the lives of men who are solely devoted to calculations of gain, and whose whole attention is absorbed in the accumulation of the "all worshipt ore?" If a disposition so completely mercenary were the universal attendant on the mercantile character, such a sarcasm might be thought not without foundation; but let candour, let impartial justice decide, whether or not there are to be found upon the marts of commerce, those who unite in themselves other excellencies with those of industry and enterprize. Among them, do we not often find the fire of generous philanthropy and public spiritedness? and does not even literature itself borrow occasional charms from the taste that is now not unfrequently cultivated by them?

The character of the merchant is an object of national importance; and many happy consequences may be supposed likely to result from the labours of a judicious biographer. The subject of mercantile education would undergo a free and ample discussion; and all those circumstances that tend to promote the attainment of genuine respectability, would be brought forward as a stimulus to the young adventurer, and would excite him to pursue his end by means that are suited

ed to his rational and moral capacities. May we not also anticipate a gradual improvement in the general character itself? when our men of business will learn to unite information and science to their activity and industry, and liberality of principle and conduct with their commendable prudence and economy.

CANDIDUS.

Malton, 15th Oct. 1808.

SYNONYMIC ELUCIDATIONS CONTINUED.

Lord's-supper. Eucharist. Communion. Sacrament.

Shortly before his crucifixion, Jesus Christ celebrated with his disciples the anniversary Phasah feast, which consisted in supping on lamb and unleavened bread. After the repast, he took wine, and, having returned thanks, drank to them an affectionate farewell; desiring in like manner to be remembered by them at their future meetings. This last supper of Christ has been imitated in different ways by different sects of Christians. The Corinthians were reproached with so celebrating it, as to make it subservient to intemperate pleasures of the table: they thought a *Lord's-supper* could not be too frequent, or too hearty, or too jovial.

Other sects have supposed, not that the supper, but that the *returning thanks* (ευχαριστια) constitutes the essence of the rite; and that the psychological effects which Christians have derived from the execution and resurrection of Christ, are the fittest objects at that time of human gratitude. Such Christians naturally prefer the term *eucharist*, as drawing attention to what they consider as the chief part of the ceremony.

Others have supposed, that brotherly love is in all cases the purest motive for conviviality; and was especially so in the incident related. These place in the *common participation* of Christian feelings the utility of the rite; they would object to a solitary celebration, and insist on the duty of *communion*.

Sacrament means *an oath*, and, in general, any religious pledge publicly given. The ceremony of marriage is a sacrament. Taking the oath of allegiance is a sacrament. Taking the test is a sacrament. The church of Rome has seven sacraments. Those, who call their peculiar imitation of the Lord's-supper emphatically *the sacrament*, either regard that rite as the most important of the ceremonies enjoined by christianity; or allude to its local selection by the magistrate, as the test of allegiance.

The synonymist is of opinion that all these terms are uncharacteristic, and, therefore, ill-chosen: and that the purpose of the conduct of Jesus Christ was to secure a lasting *commemoration*. He availed himself of the favourite anniversary festival of his countrymen to request,

quest, that, when his disciples assembled on that occasion, they would remember him. If the unitarian society, on their English anniversary festival, were to consecrate the first goblet to the immortal memory of the great founder of their faith, they would more faithfully copy the spirit of his institution, than any rival creedsmen. And they would have contributed to accomplish, what protestantism has perniciously neglected, the association of religion with the natural and habitual pleasures of mankind. The early error of the Corinthians shows in what spirit the original institution was conceived.

Mount. Mountain.

Mount, says Roubaud, is an elevated mass detached from any other; but mountain implies a chain, or series, of elevations to be ascended. This may be true of the French words *mont* and *montagne*, of which the latter has a collective termination. According to this definition, Hecla, Schehallion, and other insulated high hills are mounts. But in English the word *mount* is more commonly confined to artificial elevations. The mount in our garden commands a fine prospect.

Effective. Efficient. Efficacious. Effectual.

Causes, which have usually a share in producing a given effect, are called *effective;* which have actually a share, are called *efficient;* which have a large share, are called *efficacious;* which have a decisive share, are called *effectual.*

Nor do they speak properly who say, that time consumeth all things; for time is not effective, nor are bodies destroyed by it.

The magnetic fluid may be an efficient cause in occasioning the inclination of the earth's axis: yet no variation of this dip has ever been observed.

> A glowing drop with hollow'd steel he takes,
> And by one efficacious breath dilates.

The remedy was so efficacious as to put an effectual stop to the disease.

Bargain. Agreement. Contract.

Bargain is a Cimbric word for contentious conversation. The French apply *baragouin* to the debates in courts of law. It should seem, therefore, that while people higgle about the price of transfer, they *bargain;* that when they come to terms, they *agree;* and that when they reduce those terms to writing, they *contract.* Bargain, agreement, contract, are the progressive steps of purchase: the discussion, the assent, and the formal ratification. A noisy bargain. They bargained for the horse, but could not agree. To make the best of a bad bargain, is to sell for the most that can be gotten, when less than the value has been bid. Such is the unsteadiness of mankind, that,

after a deliberate bargain, we are frequently obliged to enter into contract, in order to bind them to their agreement.

Meager. Lean.

Meager, says Dr. Trusler, signifies wanting *flesh*, and lean, wanting *fat*.

A man may be lean, yet not meager. The lean are usually strong, the meager are commonly weak. Activity attends the lean, indolence the meager.

Meager, from the Latin *macer*, signifies *soaked*, and indicates that clammy appearance which over bathing produces. Lean is probably from the same root as *line*, and means slender, threadlike. *Ek linni*, I waste, is applied to streams in Icelandish. Junius and Adelung, unsatisfactorily, deduce *lean* from *clean*. The diminutive syllable *lin*, which occurs in goslin, dumplin, ducklin, kitlin, younglin, is no doubt an allied word. The Swedish *linne*, a snake, preserves the radical meaning of the etymon: in German likewise *schlank*, slender, is derived from *schlange*, a snake.

Artisan. Artist. Artificer.

He who exercises any mechanical art is called an artisan; he who exercises any fine art well, is called an artist. A sign-painter is denominated an artisan, and a painter of furniture-pictures an artist; although there is no other difference in their employment than that a higher degree of skill is claimed in the latter occupation. A carpenter, a blacksmith are artisans; a sculptor, a musician are artists, at least when they excel, for a carver of barber's blocks, or a fiddler at country wakes, would not be called by that name.

The unwash'd artisan.
An artist educated in Italy.

The word artificer neither suggests the accessory ideas of vulgarity and venality which adhere to the term artisan, nor the accessory ideas of refinement and liberality which adhere to the term artist. Any manufacturer is an artificer. South, in his sermons, calls the author of the universe the great artificer.

Asylum. Refuge.

An asylum is a place of safety provided and consecrated for that purpose, which may not be broke into: a refuge is a place of safety recurred to from pressingness of danger. In Italy pursued assassins fly for refuge to an asylum. Where indigence abounds, the workhouse is an annual refuge for the young, and a permanent asylum for the old. At all times a haven is an asylum; during a storm it is a refuge. A place of refuge shelters only from pursuit; but a place of asylum from danger.

Astronomy.

Astronomy. Astrology. Astrography. Astroscopy.

Astronomy treats of the motions, astrology of the influence, of the stars: the one discusses the laws (*nomos*, law) the other the purpose (*logos*, reason) of their course. The one is retrospective, observing and recording the past; the other is prospective, announcing and foretelling the future. Astronomers build on mathematical demonstration, and are peculiarly trustworthy, when, as in the case of eclipses, they venture to predict. Astrologers build on supposed influences, calculate horoscopes and prophecy seasons, without any credible grounds for conjecture. The desire of knowledge occasions astronomy to be studied; curiosity about the future, astrology.

Astrography describes the stars; astroscopy observes the stars; but these two words, although preserved in Johnson's dictionary, have not passed into currency.

League. Confederacy. Alliance. Coalition.

A league attaches men to some common cause, or principle; a confederacy is the union of several independent leagues; an alliance is an agreement between different nations to co-operate; a coalition is the co-operation of national parties naturally hostile.

The covenanters in Scotland were to Calvinism, what the league in France was to Catholicism. The confederacy of provincial corporations in Holland, and in America, constituted a government sufficiently strong to carry through their defections from the metropolitan country. The alliance of England and Spain has revived the hope of independence in Europe; which the coalition of France and Russia had nearly extinguished.

Instantly. Immediately. Directly. Presently. By-and-by.

All these words are used in familiar English as adverbs of time: all express imminent moments, intervening between *now* and *soon*, but overshoot one another in the order of their arrangement. Instantly implies without any intervention of time; immediately, without any interposition of other occupation; directly, without any diversion of attention; presently, without previous separation of the parties conversing; and by-and-by, with unrelenting approximation.

Variation. Variety.

Successive changes in the same object constitute variation: the multiplicity of different objects constitutes variety. Variations of dress are chiefly accomplished by variety of colors.

SKETCH OF A TOUR INTO THE COUNTY OF WICKLOW.

(Continued.)

Leaving the Dargle at its western extremity, and still pursuing the course of the stream, we entered the extensive and picturesque demesne of Powerscourt. The term *demesne*, as usually applied in Ireland, corresponds in its meaning with the English word *park:* occasionally, however, it seems to be used in reference to an estate or property, as well as merely to the land surrounding a mansion. The castle of Powerscourt, the seat of the earl of that name, stands on an elevated part of the grounds, commanding thence a prospect remarkable for its extent and variety. A pleasant walk of three or four miles along the well-wooded banks of the stream, which here flows through the demesne, brought us to Powerscourt water-fall, the second prominent object in the Wicklow scenery, as approached from the side of the metropolis. The access to this spot is singularly beautiful and romantic. A sudden winding of the valley disclosed to us its abrupt termination by a semi-circular sweep of lofty and almost perpendicular cliffs; in some places covered with a thick mass of foliage, in others displaying the rich and varied tint of the mountain heaths; in others, again, presenting to the eye only naked rocks, which project forwards in rugged mis-shapen forms from the side of the hill. Towards the middle of this vast barrier, the stream, which rises in the mountains above, arrived at the edge of the cliff, precipitates its waters by a fall of two hundred feet into the valley below. Here, after foaming over the detached masses of rock which lie at the basis of the precipice, it gradually takes a less impetuous character, and pursues its circuitous course under the luxuriant foliage which adorns the vale. Such was the scene as we viewed it from some distance. On approaching nearer, and taking our station under the waterfall, the grandeur of this object occupied almost exclusively our attention. It may, perhaps, be made a general remark, that no single feature on the face of nature so entirely arrests and absorbs the mind as the cataract on a large scale. There is a magnitude, a majesty, in the sound as well as in the sight: the ear, equally with the eye, conveys a feeling of sublimity to the soul; and the combination of the two impressions produces a result which, if arithmetical terms may be admitted on such a subject, is almost double that of either taken separately. We were somewhat unfortunate, however, in the time at which we visited the waterfall of Powerscourt. A long period of sultry weather had so far diminished the size of the stream, that much was left to the imagination in the filling up of that effect, which nature often realizes for herself; still the scene was most impressive and striking; and we lingered for some time on the spot, wrapt up in its contemplation.

Our next stage was to Luggie-Law, a distance, by the road usually travelled, of six or seven miles. We had been informed, however,

of

of a mountain path, which would considerably shorten this distance, and not being exactly aware of the nature of the route, we determined upon following it. Upon enquiry at a cottage situated in the valley, we were told that it would be necessary to ascend the precipitous cliffs to the right of the waterfall. Though a little daunted by this report, we nevertheless began the ascent without much hesitation or delay. The dangers and embarrassments of tourists, more especially those of the *domestic* class, are so very generally regarded as either wholly fictitious, or grossly embellished by the pen of the narrator, that I shall not attempt to detail the many difficulties we encountered in accomplishing this object. Suffice it to say, that an hour of incessant and laborious exertion was consumed before we reached the summit of the cliff, and that we more than once paused to consider the practicability of descending again into the valley. Without the occasional assistance of the shrubs, which here and there threw out their shoots from between the crevices of the rock, it would indeed have been impossible for us to have surmounted the steepness and ruggedness of the ascent. Upon after-enquiry we found that we had received a mistaken direction; that we ought to have ascended on the left of the waterfall, where the hill is much less steep and abrupt. Happy, however, in our arrival at the summit, we halted some time, as well to recruit our limbs, as to survey the scenes which we had left behind, and beneath us. Placed on an elevation, almost perpendicular, of five or six hundred feet above the valley, this appeared to us as a vast circular bason; while the diminished size of the various objects in the landscape thus far below, gave to the whole a magical and pleasing singularity. Of the waterfall we saw very little from this point: we were now, indeed, elevated above it not less than two or three hundred feet.

Having somewhat refreshed ourselves, we set forwards for Luggie-Law, ignorant of the country through which we were to pass, and having no other source of topographical information than a map of the county of Wicklow, which we carried with us. The character of the surrounding scenery was now entirely changed. The placid, picturesque beauty of the valley was succeeded by the wild and steril grandeur of the mountainous region. Not a single habitation appeared in sight: not even a solitary track was marked through the heath: every thing bore the marks of bleak and barren desolation. This tract of wild and hilly country extends, with little interruption, throughout the whole of the middle and western parts of Wicklow; leaving, however, a narrow stripe of fertile land on the borders of Kildare and Carlow, to the west. Its population, as might be expected, is exceedingly scanty; districts of vast extent occur, in which no human habitation is to be seen, and which are seldom even traversed by the foot of man. This circumstance, of course, produces a very marked effect upon the state of the total population of the county. From data of considerable accuracy, it has been supposed that Wicklow contains about sixty thousand inhabitants, or twenty-four to the square

square mile; of which number it is probable that more than two-thirds reside within ten or twelve miles of the sea coast. This degree of population falls very far short of the average which has been ascertained for Ireland at large. Mr. Newenham, whose late valuable work "On the progress and magnitude of the population of Ireland," ought, at the present crisis, to be in the hands of every Englishman, calculates the number of inhabitants in this country at about five millions and a half. An impartial view of his sources of information will probably lead us to consider this estimate as not deviating materially from the truth. Taking the population, however, at five millions, it will give a result of about a hundred and eighty persons to the square mile; a ratio which places Ireland on a par with some of the most populous countries on the face of the earth.

No bogs of considerable extent, if I am rightly informed, are met with in the mountainous district, which forms so large a part of the county of Wicklow. The genuine Irish bog has, in fact, no connection whatever with a region of mountains and hills: it is seen to advantage only in those vast tracts of level country which occur in some of the central counties of Ireland. Here, amidst apparent bleakness and sterility, the traveller will observe a degree of population, not inferior to that of the richest agricultural districts in England. The Irish peasant erects his cabin on the edge of the bog, from which he procures an abundant and cheap supply of fuel, grows his potatoes in a small adjoining inclosure, and, with few additional means of subsistence, brings up a large and healthy family of children. The character of the Irish *bog scenery* may be viewed to great advantage from either of the great canals which go from Dublin into the interior of the country; and were this object alone considered, the excursion ought to be made by every one who is desirous of becoming acquainted with the external appearance, and internal resources, of Ireland.

We had not proceeded far into the mountains above Powerscourt waterfall, before we found reason to regret having made choice of this *shorter* road to Luggie-Law. The difficulties of a steep ascent of three miles, under the oppressive beams of an unclouded August sun, were greatly increased by the marshy nature of the ground, which obliged us frequently to make long and tedious circuits in our road. We were beginning, too, to be somewhat impatient under our uncertainty as to the proper track, when this doubt was relieved by an accidental meeting with a peasant, wandering over the hills in search of some sheep, which obtained a scanty subsistence there. Too much cannot be said of the kind and open-hearted attention of the Irish peasantry to every stranger who comes among them. A pedestrian, and travelling through a part of the country where some little assistance and direction is required, I had many opportunities of making my remarks on this subject, nor could any more pleasing matter of observation have been offered to the mind. I do not mean to say that there is any thing peculiar or uncommon in the willingness of the peasantry of a country to afford assistance to the passing traveller; but there is something particularly

particularly striking in the manner in which the Irish peasant performs these offices of kindness; a sort of generous earnestness, which wins immediately upon the heart. Seldom does he allow the stranger to leave him without a benediction, and the warm expression of his good wishes: and not unfrequently these are accompanied by a return of thanks, where he himself has alone conferred the obligation. With the benevolent kindness displayed on such occasions, is mingled an oddity of language and pronunciation, which must greatly amuse an ear unaccustomed to the peculiarities of the Irish dialect. An enquiry whether you are pursuing the proper road to any place, seldom receives the direct answer of *yes* or *no*, but, *Faith, indeed, Sir, and you're in the right way to it;* or, *Sure now, Sir, you've taken the wrong road.* If it be necessary to give directions, these are expressed in a way equally singular, and with a degree of circumlocution and minuteness which often defeats its object, by involving a simple matter in much perplexity.

Informed by the shepherd of the track we were to pursue, we continued our ascent up a break or gap, valley it could scarcely be called, between two vast hills, which presented to the eye nothing but a bleak and barren extent of surface. That to the right, called Mountain Douce, is one of the most elevated points in the county of Wicklow; if the account of our shepherd might be credited, disputing the palm of superiority with the Great Sugar Loaf itself: in its form, however, there is nothing of that picturesque singularity which characterizes its rival in dignity. The path we were now following brought us within four or five hundred feet of the summit of this mountain; the height of which, above the level of the sea, cannot, I conceive, be less than 2500 feet. Arrived with much labour at this elevated situation, we trusted that we should find ourselves in sight of Luggie-Law, our point of destination. We were diappointed, however, in seeing nothing before us but a descent equally long, barren, and rugged as the ascent we had accomplished on the opposite side of the hill. Seldom, indeed, does the choice of a mountainous track, instead of the more circuitous route of the valley, answer either the expectations or wishes of the traveller. We had calculated upon being at Luggie-Law at two o'clock; it was now nearly five, and we felt more fatigued than would have been occasioned by treble the distance on a level road. We commenced our descent, however, with some alacrity, produced by a contrast between the toils of our former road and the comparative easiness of the one we were now pursuing.

(To be continued.)

MILDEW IN WHEAT.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

THE following singular fact may be interesting to your agricultural readers, and appears to be highly deserving of attention.

It is well known that, in many parts of the kingdom, the crops of wheat last autumn were extremely unproductive, and suffered exceedingly from the mildew, more particularly in the northern parts of Nottinghamshire, and in almost the whole of Yorkshire. The following is the fact to which I refer. A field of wheat in Berwickshire had been manured, partly with dung, partly with lime, and partly with sea-ware. The wheat growing on those portions of the field which had been manured with the two former was much injured by the mildew, whilst that on which the sea-ware had been laid was comparatively very slightly affected. As there was no other apparent cause of difference in the health of the plants and the quality of the crop than what was derived from the nature of the manure used, we may reasonably refer it to this cause.

It has been fully ascertained by the learned president of the Royal Society, that the disease in question is produced by a sort of parasitic fungus, which fixes and propagates itself on the stems of the wheat; draining from thence the nutriment with which the corn ought to have been supplied. Does the sea-ware, used as a manure, prevent this disease? or, if it does, what is the rationale of its operation? Is it that the saline particles in the sea-ware keep the plant in a healthy state, and prevent its tendency to disease; or in what other way is so important an effect produced?

Should any of your correspondents be able to furnish additional facts, in confirmation of the idea which the one I have stated seems to warrant, I cannot doubt their being acceptable to many of the readers of your interesting miscellany.

Yours, Sir, &c.

OBSERVATOR.

For the Athenæum.

REMARKS ON AN OBSTACLE TO THE CONVERSION OF THE HINDOOS CONSIDERED.

Sir,

YOUR correspondent *Philogamus*, in considering the obstacle to the conversion of the Hindoos to christianity arising from their habitual polygamy, or plurality of women, has strongly and ably stated the matter of fact with its causes: I confess, however, that I am so far from agreeing with him in his conclusion, respecting the propriety

priety of accommodating the doctrine and practice of the christian religion to their propensities in this point, that I think any attempt of the kind would be extremely prejudicial and discreditable. He himself speaks of the impediment as consisting in the "corruptness and lasciviousness of this sensual people;" and though circumstances may be pleaded in extenuation of the criminality of their dissoluteness, still it ought not to be the less regarded as one of those moral defects which it is the great object of a purer religion to correct. If all the propensities of a vitiated human nature are to be treated with indulgence, of what moral benefit is the melioration of the religious system of any country?

In reality, both the credit and utility of christianity have already been much impaired by improper condescensions to the habits and prejudices of the different nations which have received it. Thus in martial Europe it has been suffered to form alliance with war and conquest, ambition and revenge, so as almost entirely to lose its character of a dispensation that was to bring peace and goodwill upon earth. Among commercial people it has been allowed to give free course to that worldly spirit, that insatiable thirst after gain, that anxious solicitude about schemes for futurity, which so many direct precepts of its founder expressly reprobate And if it be permitted in Asia to connive also at lubricity, what will be left to distinguish it, in its effects, from the religions already prevalent there?

That polygamy has invariably tended to the debasement of both sexes, and has been destructive of every thing noble and elevated in domestic intercourse, will be doubted by no one who is conversant with the history of mankind. It has rendered the men indolent sensualists, and the women passive slaves; has set mothers against mothers, children against children, and has made a family, instead of a scene of mutual love and confidence, the theatre of intrigue, jealousy, and distrust. Nature has no farther ordained it, than as she has implanted in the stronger sex desires which will always be indulged when uncontrouled by principle, or laws human or divine; but this is the case with all other selfish passions, and certainly cannot be pleaded as a reason why they should not be restrained.

Your correspondent has dwelt much on the early decay of female attractions in the hot climates; but this decay is much hastened by those premature marriages which are a consequence of the want of due discipline among youth, and by no means result from a natural necessity. Admitting, however, that the Asiatic women become old considerably sooner than the men, the same difference takes place in no small degree between the two sexes in Europe, and the argument for polygamy drawn thence might be applied with almost equal force by the pleader for a similar licence among ourselves. The obvious objection to a plurality of wives derived from the equal number born of the two sexes, or rather the greater number of the male, ascertained by all European registers of births, could not fail of exciting your correspondent's attention, and is encountered by him with the remark,

that the same fact has not been *proved* by registers in Asia, where none are kept. He adds, that certain travellers have positively asserted, that in the eastern countries the female births greatly exceed the male. I have seen such assertions; but all, I believe, proceed from French writers, under the influence of a theory, or of a licentious system of morals, and unsupported by authentic documents. The fact is in itself highly improbable, for we are acquainted with no operation of heat which should violate the analogy of nature in this point, and favour the production of females in preference to males.

Philogamus, in speaking generally of attempts to convert the Hindoos, very properly suggests that enquiry should be made into the proceedings of the christians of St. Thomé in their proselyting plans, and that a co-operation with them should be established. But I would ask if he has ever heard, or believes, that these christians permit polygamy in their converts. If his answer should be in the negative, he himself must admit that the prohibition does not necessarily preclude conversion, even to a large extent. I will venture to affirm that in no country, savage or civilized, such an indulgence has been thought of by any christian missionaries.

I shall make no remark on his reasonings concerning the compatibility of polygamy with the precepts of the christian religion. This point was fully discussed in the controversy upon the publication of Madan's Thelyphthora; and however it be decided, the moral and political objections to the practice will remain the same. I conclude with disavowing any intention of imputing improper motives or censurable principles to your correspondent, whose manner of writing inspires me with respect; and subscribe myself,

Sir, your constant reader,

SENIOR.

FURTHER REMARKS ON VEGETABLE INSTINCT.

To the Editor of the Athenæum.

Sir,

ON reading in your useful and entertaining work some remarks, signed Wm. Roots, on the instinctive power of vegetables, I thought they did not exactly correspond with some observations I had before made on the subject, and that I could do no less than offer you what I supposed to be the reason for the scarlet-runners in question refusing to climb up the lilac and privet, which I think is plainly this:

The hedge was *in full vigour*, and of course very thick with leaves, forming so complete a shade, that the attraction which it is well known every plant has towards the light, induced the beans to trail upon the ground rather than shoot towards the dark; but when the pea-sticks were put by them, they twined around them; for though they may have

have been stuck in the ground close to the hedge, yet their tops must, I believe, be more inclined towards the light, or they would not so willingly have twined around them; but had the leaves, or all the small branches of the lilac, &c. been cut off, or had they been trained on the pea-sticks till they had nearly reached the top of the hedge, I believe they would have caught hold on the living boughs and soon have covered them.

I recollect observing a few years ago, in a neighbour's garden, some rows of peas, planted parallel with a high box hedge. They were all supplied with the same kind of sticks; but when the plants in the row nearest the hedge were about a foot high, they all refused any longer to climb upon their proper sticks, but turned off on the side farthest from the hedge, and in a little while most of them caught hold on the sticks in the next row, and would have done the same to a living bush had there been one within their reach: and by what I have observed, all those properties in plants which are most like instinctive, may be found to be either the effect of some stimulus acting on those parts of plants so admirably adapted by nature to their several purposes, whether it be the dispersion of its seeds or the destruction of noxious insects,—or of an attraction towards some substance which is necessary to its growth, as light, water, &c.

Yours, &c. MINIMUS.

CORRESPONDENCE ON THE SUBJECT OF LIBERTY OF CONSCIENCE.

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Geo. Harrison to the Reverend Christopher Wyvill.

Worthy and respected Friend,

I HAVE read thy little Tract, recommending "*a more extended Discussion in favour of Liberty of Conscience*," with cordial satisfaction, and as I trust that a formal apology on the part of a well-wisher to such a discussion, though a stranger, will not be deemed necessary for obtruding myself upon thy notice, I will venture to set down a few thoughts, which have occurred to my mind upon the perusal of thy pamphlet.

The interest of mankind, both in a civil and religious point of view, seems to be deeply involved in the occurrences of the present eventful period. Every feeling mind must be affected by the contemplation of the horrors and miseries accompanying the extended warfare that has of late years prevailed in Europe; and yet the history of former ages affords a fair ground of hope that He, who can and does educe good from evil, will give to the present calamitous scene an effect ultimately beneficial to the human race.

But

But though feeble mortals cannot controul events, does it become the well-wisher of his species listlessly to regard the passing scene? Benevolence is an active principle, and human affairs are conducted under Providence by human talents and exertion, and these talents and exertion have been the most conspicuous in times of the greatest difficulty. It is the storm and not the calm that calls for them.

May, then, the cause of the pamphlet be taken up with a calm, but firm resolution, to persevere till the rock of civil and religious liberty be made the foundation of social order in this country; but let the object be frankly and explicitly stated and avowed, in order that all malevolent insinuations or misrepresentations may at once be put down.

To be uniformly and scrupulously temperate in discussion is wisely recommended in the pamphlet.

I observe, that with the exception of one respectable individual, your association consists of members of the established church, to whom the undertaking is highly creditable, and in such a cause it seems peculiarly expedient that *they* should fill the foremost ranks; but at the same time members of "every sect and denomination" are invited as auxiliaries. This seems quite consistent with the grand principle of the object in view, in no sort invidious or exclusive. What opinion or disposition my fellow professors may entertain upon the subject I cannot undertake to say, but I think it must be a sad dereliction of first principles, or a lamentable ignorance of the tenets professed, or a fear arising from worldly considerations, that influences their judgment and actuates their conduct, if they withhold their countenance from the promotion of a purpose so congenial to the doctrines avowed in the writings of our best authors.

After all, when I consider the powerful effect of prejudice and habit upon the minds of men, I am scarcely able to exclude from my mind a doubt whether, before the object aimed at can be effectually accomplished, it will not, by education, be previously necessary to impress the minds of the youth of the rising or succeeding generation with those just and liberal sentiments of religion, the prevalency of which can alone ensure success.

We have seen of late a striking and calamitous instance of the want of due preparation in the minds of the people of France for the sober adoption and permanent enjoyment of civil and political freedom, and ardently do I wish that the "*extended discussion*," recommended in the case in question, may eventually have the effect of precluding all objection, danger, and mischief on that ground.

I have detained thee too long. Believe me very sincerely and truly,

Thy respectful Friend, GEO. HARRISON.

Walcot-place, Lambeth, 8th Sept. 1808.

One word more. If it is intended to proceed in this business upon the broad bottom of "unlimited," or "universal toleration," or, more correctly, "*universal right*," give me leave to suggest the irrelevancy

levancy of identifying this cause with the situation, however pitiable or alarming, of the people of Ireland.

G. H.

Burton Hall, near Bedal, Yorkshire, Oct. 29th, 1808.

Sir,

Yesterday I received the favour of your letter, dated the 8th Sept. in which you have been pleased to express your approbation of a paper, lately published by me, with a view to promote the restoration of the rights of conscience. I hasten to return you my thanks, and to acknowledge the pleasure which the perusal of your letter has given me; and I cannot but add, that it is the most encouraging communication which I have been favoured with since the publication of the little piece alluded to. That piece can be considered as little more than an advertisement of the petition which is announced in it, and which certainly will be presented in the next session of parliament.

The reasoning and the prayer of the petition, when the forms of parliament will admit the publication of it, will be found, I trust, such as, in conformity with the gospel, they ought to be. But in drawing a petition against every species of intolerance, we could not overlook the formidable prejudices which are sure to array themselves against the grant of liberty of conscience; and we endeavoured to avail ourselves of the situation of the empire to introduce some expressions respecting the Irish Roman Catholics, tending to promote their success, but not identifying their partial claim of redress with our nobler object, which is, to effect the extinction of intolerance, or in other words, to procure the establishment of liberty of conscience on the principles of the gospel. Such is the end we aim at; such is the extent of the prayer of our petition, which grows naturally out of the principles asserted in it, viz. That all men are bound in duty to examine the subject of religion, to embrace what may appear to them to be the truth, and to profess what may have been so embraced: and however different the sentiments thus formed and professed may be, from the religion of the state, that no man ought to suffer any inconvenience whatsoever on that account, under laws subjecting dissenters to the punishment of death, or to any corporal or pecuniary punishment, or to any disability more or less disgraceful. These are the principles which have been attested by the signatures of a small but sufficient band of petitioners; and I trust they will be steadfastly maintained, till their grand object shall have been completely secured.

I have learned with pleasure, Sir, not only that you concur with us in these principles, but also that you approve the candour and moderation recommended in my late pamphlet. Such other papers as I may send forth in support of our petition will be written, I trust, in the spirit of that recommendation. At least it is my intention to adhere to it; for it is right, and will be found prudent, I believe, to avoid

avoid as much as possible what may irritate our adversaries, and for ultimate success to rely on strength of argument, combined with mildness of expression. Controversial acrimony is ill adapted to diminish the prejudices of our opponents, and it would be unbecoming and offensive in a more than common degree in those men, who are the advocates of gospel liberty and benevolence. In a paper soon to be printed, I have not scrupled to brand the laws we wish to be repealed with the epithets which in justice belong to them; but that, I hope, cannot be considered liable to objection; for no rules of candour or charity require, that violations of the right of private judgment in religion should not be represented as criminal in that degree in which they are so. In vain the worthy and indefatigable Clarkson would have attempted the abolition of the slave trade, if a mistaken candour had induced him and his friends to forbear to stigmatize it as a trade in rapine, robbery, and murder; and in vain should we attempt to restore religious liberty, if we feared to condemn intolerance in every form to merited infamy.

I am aware that at my age it is not much that I can have strength to do; but I am thankful to the Almighty, that after having formed my sentiments on this subject at an early period of my life, and long after that time having published them (in my Defence of the worthy Dr. Price) I have lived to a crisis, in which the circumstances of the empire, particularly the discontents in Ireland, appear to afford a fit opportunity to lay them before the legislature. As far as my strength will permit, I shall endeavour to promote this best of causes; but assistance from every quarter, to throw new light on a subject so much misunderstood, will be wanted. I hope, therefore, you will excuse my taking the liberty to ask, whether or not you feel any objection to publish your letter to me, either as a separate pamphlet, or in some respectable periodical publication, which is inclined to favour our cause. In either way its appearance, I think, would do good. With my answer, Sir, you are at liberty to do what you judge to be expedient.

I am your much obliged and most obedient servant,

C. WYVILL.

Geo. Harrison,
Walcot-place, Lambeth.

COLLECTANEA OXONIENSIA; OR, LETTERS TO AND FROM EMINENT PERSONS, FROM THE ORIGINALS IN THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY.

No person conversant in literature can be unapprized of the treasures of various kinds contained in the Bodleian Library. Of those which come under the foregoing description, we hope to be able to present our readers with an interesting series, extracted by a Gentleman of the University,

University, on whose judgment and fidelity in selection we have every reason to rely.

Sir KENELM DIGBY* to Dr. GERARD LANGBAINE† on a Donation of MSS. to the Bodleian Library.

Sir,

Even now, I receive the letter you have done me the favour to write to me the 24th of the last month, and do acknowledge myself much obliged to you for the great civilities you are pleased to use to me in it. For that which you desire my answer unto: If your public register of the library were by you, I believe it would give you a full one; for, as I remember, Dr. James‡ (by whom I sent my present) told me at his return from Oxford, that such clauses as I desired were expressed; one main one whereof was, that whensoever a deserving person desired to make use of any of those books I gave, (especially for printing of them) they to whom the care of the library was committed, might pleasure him by the loan thereof; such person giving them satisfaction for the restitution of the book in due time. But to speak now fully to that particular, and to all other questions that may at any time arise concerning these books, wherein my resolution may be desired; be pleased to receive this from me—that when I sent these MSS. to the university, my aim was, to do her a service in it; and my act was, the making her a free gift of them, without any restriction upon her. Now upon both these scores, the absolute disposing of them in all occurrences, dependeth wholly and singly of the university; for she knoweth best what will be most for her service and advantage, and she is absolute mistress to dispose of them as she pleaseth. And with that, upon all occasions, my good liking shall ever go along.

The propositions you sent me a transcript of, methinketh are very good ones; only towards the end of the sixth it seemeth to me there is too

* Of this eminent man it is observed by Wood, that "his person was handsome and gigantic, and nothing was wanting to make him a complete cavalier. He had so graceful elocution and noble address, that had he been dropt out of the clouds into any part of the world, he would have made himself respected." *Ath. Oxon.*—Among the books he presented to the Bodleian Library, there were more than two hundred manuscripts.

† Gerard Langbaine, "beloved of Usher, Selden, and the great Goliahs of literature," was Fellow and afterwards Provost of Queen's College, and Keeper of the University Archives. It is said to have been his intention not only to make a perfect catalogue of the books in the Bodleian Library, and to class them according to their subjects, but to incorporate into it all those in the private Libraries of the different Colleges, which were wanting in the public, so that it might be seen at one view what books there were in Oxford on any subject. The design, however, was never carried into execution. He died Feb. 10, 1657-8, and was buried in the chapel of the College over which he had presided.

‡ Dr. Thomas James was Fellow of New College, and Head Librarian of the Bodleian, of which he published a catalogue in 4to. in the year 1605, which some years afterwards was reprinted. He died in 1622.

too great a restriction; for, since all good things are the better the more they are communicated, I see no reason but that he who hath not convenience to print what he hath copied, should keep his transcript by him.

Give me leave, before I end my letter, to enquire of you whether a parcel of Arabic books, that I designed for the service of the university, ever found the way thither or no. As I was one day waiting on the late king my master, I told him of a collection of choice Arabic manuscripts I was sending after my Latin ones to the university. My Lord of Canterbury* (that was present) wished they might go along with a parcel that he was sending to St. John's college: whereupon I sent them to his Grace, as Chancellor of the university, beseeching him to present them in my name to the same place where he sent his. They were in two trunks (made exactly fit for them) that had the first letters of my christian and surname decyphered upon them with nails; and on the first page of every book was my ordinary motto and name, written at length in my own hand. The troubles of the times soon followed my sending these trunks of books to Lambeth-house, and I was banished out of the land, and returned not till my Lord was dead; so that I never more heard of them. If they came when they were intended, I am satisfied; if not, I would make enquiry after them. I have in my library at Paris some more manuscripts that I intend for the university library; which, when I shall have gotten over hither, I intend to send unto it. In the meantime, Sir, if any thing in my power may be of service to you, I shall take it for a great favour to be commanded by you; and do assure you, that upon all occasions you shall ever find me

Your very humble servant,

KENELM DIGBY.

Gothurst, the 7 of Nov. 1654.

Dr. CHARLETON† to Dr. BARLOW,‡ on presenting a picture of Grotius to the University.

Reverend Sir,

That our venerable mother, the University of Oxford, is pleased with so much of condescension and favour to accept my mean oblation

* Archbishop Laud.

† Walter Charleton was one of the physicians in ordinary to Charles the First and Second. "I think," says Wood, "he hath been some few years, as he is now (1695) in the Isle of Jersey, a learned and an unhappy man, aged and grave, yet too much given to Romances." He died in 1707, aged 87.

‡ Thomas Barlowe was Fellow and afterwards Provost of Queen's, Head Keeper of the Bodleian Library, Margaret Professor of Divinity, and Bishop of Lincoln. He died in 1691, in the 85th year of his age. He left to the Bodleian Library all such books of his own as it did not possess at the time of his death, and the remainder to his own society, who erected in 1694 a very handsome building to receive them.

oblation, the image of the illustrious *Hugo Grotius*, which lately I presumed to send, not as an ornament to her public library, but a minerval or simple testimony of my respects and gratitude; I esteem a singular felicity to me; but ascribe it intirely to her exceeding benignity and candor, and your most obliging recommendation, not to the value of the offering itself, which in truth holds no proportion to either her grandeur and glory, or to my zeal for the increase thereof. To her indulgence, therefore, and your humanity, I, according to my duty, gratefully acknowledge myself infinitely indebted: beseeching you (most worthily honoured Dr.) further to exercise the same virtue, in recommending to her also my thanks for so signal an honor; and in believing most assuredly, that I am, tho' the least deserving of all her sons, yet one of the most devote of all her and your servants,

W. CHARLETON.

May 14, [16] 74.

CLASSICAL DISQUISITIONS.

EURIPIDES.

Euripides was the contemporary and rival of Sophocles, being born about fifteen years after that poet, and dying nearly at the same time with him. His father was Mnesarchus, an inhabitant of the Demos or borough of Phyle, a subdivision of the tribe Œnœis. His mother's name was Clito, who is repeatedly described by Aristophanes, the avowed enemy of Euripides, as a seller of herbs. We know not how far he has in this instance indulged the licence or malice of the ancient comedy. The circumstance is denied by the later grammarians, on the authority of Philochorus, an ancient writer, and Clito is asserted to have been of noble descent. Before the birth of his son, Mnesarchus is said to have consulted the oracle of Apollo respecting his future destiny, and to have received for answer, "that the child who should be born to him would reach the summit of glory, and gain the honour of the sacred garland," which was interpreted to signify the crown of victory at the Olympic games.

By most writers Euripides* is said to have been born in the first year of the seventy-first Olympiad (480 B.C.) in which the invasion of Xerxes on Greece took place. The Athenians, incapable of making defence, had abandoned their city to the fury and vengeance of the invaders, and trusting for their ultimate safety to their naval force, had sent their wives and children to various places of security, and especially to the neighbouring island of Salamis. Thither also Mnesarchus retired with his wife Clito. In the autumn of this year was ob-

* The Arundelian marble places his birth five years earlier.

tained the naval victory of Salamis over the Persians, which in a great measure decided the fate of Greece. On the same day, it is said, Euripides was born, and, in memory of this battle, fought in the narrow channel, or *Euripus*, which divides Salamis from the continent, received his name. Euripides, at subsequent periods of his life, was accustomed to frequent the island of his birth, where a cave was shewn, in which some of his tragedies are said to have been composed.

In compliance with the supposed intimation of the oracle, and in conformity with the custom of his country, he was at an early period initiated in the usual gymnastic exercises, for the purpose of becoming qualified to contend with honour and success at the public games. But his genius directed him to the cultivation of nobler pursuits,* in which he availed himself of such assistance as the best masters of his age could afford. He paid some attention to the art of painting. He studied rhetoric under the celebrated Prodicus, whose allegory of the choice of Hercules is preserved by Xenophon, and has been greatly admired both in ancient and modern times. He also attended in his youth the instructions of Anaxagoras, who then flourished as a philosophical teacher at Athens, and whose doctrines may frequently be traced in the writings of the poet. But, warned by the danger of his master, who had exposed himself by the freedom of some of his principles to the resentment of the Athenian populace, he quitted the lofty and hazardous speculations of philosophy, and sought for fame in a track less obnoxious to odium.

In his eighteenth year he first applied himself to the composition of tragedies, and during a long period continued to present himself frequently as a competitor with other poets for the approbation of the Athenian audiences. The number of his plays, the names of which are still known to us, amounts to about seventy-five, agreeing with the computation of Varro. Notwithstanding the frequency of his representations, he gained the chief prize only five times.

Euripides was the friend of Socrates, and is said to have sometimes received his advice and assistance in the composition of his dramas. Socrates rarely frequented the theatre, except when the pieces of Euripides were represented. In the character of Palamedes the poet was supposed to have delineated that of his friend, and some verses are quoted addressing the Greeks as having slain the best and wisest of their nation, which the audience are said to have applied to the fate of Socrates, and to have burst into tears at the recollection of their crime. As Socrates had become an object of public persecution and calumny before the representation of the Palamedes, it is probable that some application of the character to his circumstances may have been intended by the poet. His death could be alluded to only as a subject of

* In a fragment of his Autolycus, he speaks with great contempt of the Athletæ, as the worst of the innumerable pests of Greece, a race of men alike useless to themselves and the public, whose honours ought to be assigned to philosophers and statesmen.

of probable anticipation from the jealous and precipitate character of the Athenians, who commonly selected their best citizens as objects of hatred and punishment, since he survived Euripides some years. The remarkable effect ascribed to the passage of the Palamedes which has been mentioned, may possibly have taken place at some representation of that play subsequent to the death of Socrates.

In his old age Euripides was invited to the court of Archelaus, king of Macedonia, where he spent the last years of his life, and was received with great honour by that prince, who appears to have been a munificent patron of letters and the arts. Various circumstances relating to Euripides during his residence in Macedonia, are preserved by Plutarch and other writers, few of which seem to merit much notice. At the court of Archelaus, he met with Agatho the tragic poet, who gave to that monarch this noble advice, "remember that you rule over men, that you rule them according to laws, and that you will not rule them always."

Euripides did not long survive to enjoy the friendship of his royal patron. He is commonly said to have perished in a lamentable manner, being torn in pieces by savage dogs, to which Ovid thus alludes in his Ibis:

> Utque cothurnatum vatem tutela Dianæ,
> Dilanient vigilum te quoque turba canum.

Thus, if we may believe the ancient writers, all the three great tragic poets perished in some strange and unnatural way. The death of Euripides is by some writers represented as wholly accidental, and by others as ascribed to design. The author of an epigram in the Anthology denies that he perished either by the attack of dogs, or which was also related) by the fury of women; but ascribes his death to the decay of nature. He died at about the age of seventy-five. The Athenians sent ambassadors to Macedonia, to request of Archelaus that his body might be removed to his native country. The king refused their demand, and erected in memory of the poet a noble monument in the vicinity of Pella, his chief city. The Athenians likewise testified the respect which they entertained for their fellow-citizen, by erecting to his honour a cenotaph on the road leading from the city to the Piræus.

The following epitaph on the poet is ascribed to Thucydides the historian.

> Μναμα μεν Ελλας απασ' Ευριπιδου· οστια δ'ισχει
> Γη Μακιδων· ἡ γαρ δεξατο τερμα βιου.
> Πατρις δ'Ελλαδος Ελλας Αθηναι· πλειστα δε Μουσαις
> Τερψας, εκ πολλων και τον επαινον εχει.

"All Greece is the monument of Euripides; the Macedonian land possesses his bones, for there he reached the boundary of his life. His country is Athens, the GREECE of GREECE; having afforded general

general delight by his muse, he enjoys the recompence of general praise."

Euripides was twice married, but in neither of his matrimonial connections appears to have enjoyed much domestic happiness.

That he was the friend of Socrates, may be thought a circumstance which strongly testifies the virtues of his private character. He seems not to have possessed the social qualities which distinguished his rival Sophocles. Both Euripides and his fellow-disciple Pericles are said to have imitated the austere manners of their master Anaxagoras. An ancient poet* says of him, that the disciple of Anaxagoras was morose in social intercourse, averse from laughter, and even during the festivity of the banquet, ignorant how to promote hilarity; but that whatever he wrote he tempered with the sweetness of honey and the charms of the Sirens. He has been charged with a professed antipathy to the female sex. This should seem to be contradicted by his repeated marriages; or, if the fact cannot be wholly denied, it may in candour be supposed, according to the testimony of the ancients, that this aversion was in some degree founded on an unfortunate experience in his particular instance, from which he ought not to have deduced a general inference. It is true that he seems eagerly to seize every opportunity of uttering a bitter or malignant sentiment against women; but Sophocles is said to have observed, that the hatred which he expressed against them was confined to the stage. He has, however, obtained the surname of Μισογυνης, though Barnes† strenuously defends him from the charge implied in that appellation, observing, that if he has described some females with all the vices incident to human nature, yet he has delineated many others with all the virtues that can adorn their sex; but he adds, "mansit tamen affixum poetæ vocabulum, quia plus mordent paucæ offensiunculæ quam multa beneficia."

It has also been alledged, that many of the maxims which he attributes to his dramatic characters are favourable to vice. Such is that memorable sentiment which he puts into the mouth of Eteocles, and which Cæsar was accustomed frequently to quote:

Ειπερ γαρ αδικειν χρη, τυραννιδος περι
Καλλιστον αδικειν· τἀλλα δ' ευσεβειν χρεων

of which Cicero gives us this translation:

Nam si violandum est jus, regnandi gratia
Violandum est; aliis rebus pietatem cole.

He adds, "Capitalis Eteocles, *vel potius Euripides*, qui id unum, quod omnium sceleratissimum fuerit, exceperit." It is, however, rightly judged by the best critics, that the words *vel potius Euripides* are an interpolation equally inconsistent with good sense, and with the

* Alexander Aetolus ap. Gellium. † Vit. Eurip. § xix.

the manner of Cicero. The poet is obviously not accountable for the sentiments, which consistency obliges him to ascribe to the vicious characters whom his subject leads him to represent. In his tragedy of Bellerophon were some verses to the following effect: "that gold is the most delightful object which the hands of men can contain; that no domestic connections and relations can afford pleasures equal to those which it furnishes to its possessors; and that if the eyes of Venus have the radiance of gold, it is no wonder that she inspires universal love." The audience rose with a murmur of indignation at the expression of these sentiments, till the poet came forward, and desired them to wait for the conclusion of the piece, when they would see the fate which this lover of gold would experience. It must, however, be acknowledged, that Euripides has in some instances fallen into the error, which Milton is observed to have avoided, of expressing in a manner unnecessarily offensive, those impious sentiments, which he was necessitated to ascribe to his vicious characters.

Of the works of Euripides nineteen complete plays, and the commencement of a twentieth, are still remaining. It seems to be generally agreed, that in the construction of his plots and the delineation of his characters, Euripides is inferior to Sophocles. His dramas are commonly introduced by an inartificial prologue explaining the subject, which tends to impair the interest of the catastrophe. His incidents are frequently improbable, and in a poetical difficulty he makes his appeal too readily to the θεος απο μηχανης. He sometimes throws parts of his subject into long and tedious narrations. Such are the faults of this great poet. He, however, possesses beauties not less striking. He is the poet of philosophy, and abounds with moral maxims, expressed in noble and elegant language, which please us in the perusal, and fix themselves forcibly on the memory. Hence it is that Euripides is quoted by the ancient writers more frequently than any other dramatic poet, and that his fragments are numerous and important. Notwithstanding the moroseness imputed to his character, he abounds in passages of tender and delicate pathos. We shall only produce one example in the Phœnissæ. It is the wish which Antigone expresses, that she could join her brother, of whom she has obtained a dim and distant view from the walls of Thebes, in the midst of the approaching hostile force.

ὁρω δητ' ου σαφως, ὁρω δε πως
μορφης τυπωμα, στερνα τ' εξηκασμενα.
ανεμωκεις ειθε δρομον νεφελας
ποσιν εξανυσαιμι δι' αιθερος
προς εμον ὁμογενετορα,
περι δ' ωλενας δερα φιλτατα
βαλοιμι χρονῳ φυγαδα μελεον.

That Euripides was in the highest sense a poet, will not be doubted, when it is recollected that he was the favourite poet of Milton.

D.

ACCOUNTS OF, AND EXTRACTS FROM, RARE AND CURIOUS BOOKS.

ILSUNG'S TRAVELS FROM AUGSBURG TO COMPOSTELLA.

Sebastian Ilsung, a native of Augsburg, and descendant of one of its most ancient patrician families, whose origin is, indeed, lost in the grey mists of antiquity, finally settled at Augsburg towards the beginning of the fifteenth century, before which period he had fought with no small renown against the followers of Huss. Some years afterwards he added to that renown by a journey to Spain, and the adventures which occurred to him in its prosecution he has described himself in a manuscript, of which his descendants are still in possession. Part only of this MS. has been published, and as that is become, even in Germany itself, extremely rare, I should imagine it can scarcely be known to any of my countrymen. On this account, no less than as it is a singular record of the manner in which journies were performed and described in those days, I hope to render no unacceptable service by presenting the readers of the Athenæum with a brief summary of the whole narrative with which Sebastian Ilsung favoured his cotemporaries.

This renowned traveller left Augsburg in 1446, on the Monday succeeding Palm Sunday, and proceeded to Memmingen, where the Grand Master of the Teutonic Order gave him letters of recommendation, and furnished him with a priest as interpreter. In his passage through Switzerland he was often detained as an Austrian, and, therefore, an enemy to liberty, solely from the circumstance of his hair being frizzed. At Geneva Ilsung was fortunate enough to kiss Pope Felix V.th's slipper. That pontiff having been duke of Savoy and a married man before he entered the priesthood, gave him a recommendatory introduction to his son Lewis, duke of Savoy. Consequently our tourist was presented to that prince and the various branches of his family, on which occasion he fell on his knees and kissed hands. The duke recommended him to the dauphin, and gave him a swordsman for attendant; he was accompanied also by a Bergefant, or page, who ran on foot by the side of his horse.

The attentive and pious Augsburger visited every holy spot as diligently as he described them: if, indeed, his deserve the name of descriptions, which were little better than we should have fair reason to expect from an itinerant craftsman now-a-days. He next passed through Toulouse (or, as he calls it, Loson) and Vienne. In the former place he saw the Grand Master, of whom he says, "he is almighty, for you must make way for him when he passes by." This exalted personage was courteous enough to "shew Ilsung great attention and civility;" gave him every morning and evening, during his abode

abode there, "red and white wine;" and crowned all by investing him with the orders of St. Anthony, and the little Bell. In passing through Nismes (Neimus) Ilsung beheld the famous amphitheatre, which he thought not to be the work of man; for, says he, it is not human: this leads him into a pious relation of how the emperor Charles destroyed this temple (so he is pleased to call the amphitheatre) and the idolatry of the heathens, and how that monarch was enabled to obtain a glorious victory over them by means of a sword and buckler, painted with three lilies, which were handed to him by an angel during the fight.

Barcelona, the next city which Ilsung reached, is mentioned by him as the richest and handsomest place he ever saw. Thence he journied to the cloister of Nuestra Senora di Montserrata, called by him Münsterroth, where, he affirms, "meat and drink are provided for every visitor, and there is a castle at half a mile's distance, whence you may see the hermits walking about among the rocks." At Tortosa, Ilsung found Maria, queen of Arragon, and consort of Alphonso V. He was admitted into her society, "when she gave him a white stole, with a little chain suspended from it; as also a necklace, with a griffin attached, in honour of Mary, the queen of heaven. Having decorated him with these things herself, she kissed his cheeks, and conversed freely with him, in the company of many handsome ladies." He himself, in the enthusiasm of self-love abundantly gratified, calls her "a saint!" In Arragon he tells us, that he saw several Jews and Pagans. Throughout the kingdom of Navarre he was most courteously welcomed, and at Olete, its capital, was graciously received by Charles, prince of Vienne, who presented him to the princess, a German lady.* At the presentation, she was inhaling the fresh air in a "tabernackel," or tent, pitched on a rampart, where her brother-in-law, Gaston, compte Foix, was joking her, and would have persuaded her to "talk German with Ilsung; but she found this wondrous difficult, being quite out of practice." He was prevailed upon to take leave in the German fashion, which was looked upon, in Navarre, as very gross, indeed; kneeling before the queen, he kissed her hand; then he went round to her maids of honour, embraced them severally, and presented them his hand, which they seemed much to loath.

Ilsung proceeded from Navarre to Castile and Burgos. There he accompanied a procession, for which the archbishop rewarded him with a present of six pheasants and capons, and letters of recommendation for prosecuting his farther travels to Cape Finisterre. After some trivial adventures, which he recounts, he arrived safely at "Finster Stern" (an insignificant pun on the name). "It is called, in Latin, says our erudite traveller, Offinius Terra; but in German, the Land's End, where is a high mountain, against which a world of sea rages on every side." Here he saw our Saviour's footstep on the solid rock, and a well, which Jesus dug, together with the seats made use

* Daughter of Adolphus, duke of Cleves.

use of by him, the holy Virgin, St. John, St. James, and St. Peter. All these things are described by him with the piously absurd credulity of a bigot; and he concludes by saying, "beyond the mountain, very stupendous and turbulent are the waves, so that, if the wind should force any one two days journey thereon, he never can return, and there do both waters and earth terminate.

On leaving Finisterre, Ilsung continued his tour to visit Henry the fourth, king of Castile. A herald introduced him into that monarch's tent, which was "passing grand." He thereupon fell on his knees before the king, and was honoured with kissing of hands. Nor did he neglect to implore his Majesty's gracious good-will and patronage; in token of which he conferred a yellow and gold ribbon upon Ilsung, the ceremony being accompanied by much noise of trumpets and fifes. Thence he journied to Leon, and passed through the town, which it is utterly impossible to recognize as he describes it, and of which he asserts, "roasted fowls are there re-animated, and that he had seen young broods of such re-animated poultry in the church!" Speaking of the cathedral at Compostella, in Galicia, Ilsung says, "the Lord himself led Saint James behind its altar, and before that time Saint James's church was a pagan temple. The church is open to all: at its top is a cross, which came down from heaven, and it attracts the greatest pilgrimage in christendom, excepting that to the holy sepulchre. A number of pilgrims were journeying thither."

Our traveller went from Compostella to Santa Maria la Real di Nieva ("the holy Virgin's ship") where he beheld the greatest wonder of all, "a large stone ship, and a stone mast nearly ninety feet in length, and so heavy, that twenty oxen could not move it from its place." Whoever, says Ilsung, is not a lost sinner can, however, move this great stone mast with his finger; but whosoever has slain another, or has been excommunicated, and has not expiated his offence, can in no wise move it;" but Ilsung moved it visibly! Our errant visited Compostella a second time, posting his arms up in the church, as he had before done at "Finster-Stern." He was desirous of going to Portugal, but gave up the design, as the princes Peter and John were then minors, and there was no court at Lisbon. He relinquished also his intention of visiting Grenada, for it was desolated at that time by the plague. Of the heathen monarch, by whom it was then governed, he says, "the Christians do not extirpate him on account of the deal of good which he does." Ilsung now began to think of his return, and would have gone to England, but his means suddenly failed him, nor knew he how to renovate them. He therefore returned with speed to Geneva, where the duke again received him most graciously, and made the page, who attended him on his journey, a present of ten crowns and a horse worth twelve gold pieces. At last Ilsung returned home, after traversing one thousand miles in six months. The manuscript of his travels has this prosa-poetic conclusion:

Gott

Gott und Sanct Jacob und die heiligen hant mich bevaren
Biss ich die Land und Königreich han erfaren
Das war—da man zalt nach Christus Geburt 1446 Jahre.

God and Saint James and the Saints watched over my head,
Till through countries and kingdoms my course I had sped,
Which was in the year that the 1446th after Christ's birth is counted.

SEBASTIAN ILSUNG.

MEMOIRS OF DISTINGUISHED PERSONS.

ACCOUNT OF THE LITERARY LABOURS OF MR. PROFESSOR PORSON.

Not long after the Professor had taken his first degree, it was in the contemplation of the Syndics of the university press at Cambridge to publish Æschylus, with those papers of Stanley which have since been committed to the care of the Rev. Mr. Butler, Master of Shrewsbury School. Mr. Porson offered to undertake the work, if he were allowed to conduct it according to his own views of the duty of an editor. He moreover suggested that it was highly desirable to obtain the various readings of an important manuscript upon the continent (at Venice, if we rightly remember), and he actually proposed to undertake a journey, for the purpose of collating it, at an expence not greater than that for which the task could have been performed by a person upon the spot. Unhappily for the interests of learning, this offer was rejected, and in a manner so discouraging, that it served in a great measure to extinguish* in him that ardent love of fame, which is at once the most powerful and the most honourable incentive to every laborious undertaking. Whether it were *wholly* produced by the various disappointments which this great scholar experienced in his progress through life, or whether it were *aided* by a certain portion of constitutional apathy, unquestionably there never existed an individual so capable of reaching the highest distinction in that species of excellence upon which himself appeared to place the greatest value, yet who so sternly neglected the means by which such an end might be attained. In consequence of this turn of mind, he confined himself for a considerable period to such exertions as were called forth by a wish to serve his friends; and we probably owe to accident, or to the incessant importunity of others, the greater part of what has at length appeared under his own name.

In 1786,† when Nicholson, the celebrated bookseller at Cambridge, was preparing a new edition of Xenophon's Anabasis, he

* It is certain that the Professor himself did ascribe this consequence to the fact now mentioned. And we have the less scruple in alluding to it, as the person, who was considered by Mr. P. as the principal cause of his disappointment, has long ceased to be numbered among the living.

† The title-page has 1785; but Mr. Porson's address (which, with characteristical quaintness, is incribed "*Lectori, si quis erit*") is dated 22 Aug. 1786.

prevailed upon Mr. Porson to furnish him with some notes, which occupy about nineteen closely-printed octavo pages; and which, though avowedly written in haste, and upon an author whom he had not particularly studied, yet attest the hand of a master. The citations from Suidas, which accompany these notes, were furnished by the Rev. W. Whiter, the learned and ingenious author of "A Specimen of a Commentary on Shakspeare," and of a new Etymologicum Magnum.

In the year 1787, he communicated to the Delegates of the Clarendon press some notes upon Toup's emendations on Suidas, which appeared with that important work in 1790. These notes he had probably put together at the request of his friend Mr. Tyrwhitt, whose learning and acuteness he always mentioned not merely with approbation, but even with reverence. To the great loss of letters, this excellent man had died just before these notes were written. Mr. Porson speaks of him as, *desideratissimus*, p. 422; and of his literary character he thus pronounces his opinion: *Tyrwhittum, acerrimum, si quis alius, harum rerum judicem*, p. 448. *Si in palmariâ Tyrwhitti acutissimi emendatione acquiescere nolebat Toupius, &c.* p. 461. We have a pleasure in quoting these expressions of warm panegyric, because a notion has been entertained that Mr. Porson was actuated by a mean spirit of rivalry, which led him to depreciate the merit of others. If his writings be fairly examined, such an opinion will appear grossly unjust. Higher praise cannot be given than the following: "*Vir summus, qui in his literis regnat, RUHNKENIUS.*" Not. in Xenoph. "*Insignis et extra omnem dubitationis aleam posita est summi Bentleii emendatio*, &c. Not. in Suid.—Valckenaer, Toup, Dawes, Koen, Pierson, Brunck, Wyttenbach, and all real scholars, are praised in his writings, and appeared the objects of his respect in conversation. But the Professor always discriminated when he bestowed praise; and indeed he says of himself, "*ab eorum consuetudine valde abhorrui, qui nihil aliud, quam pulcre, bene, recte, tertio quoque verbo ingerunt.*" Unquestionably when he meets with a pretender to knowledge, or one who detracts from the *real merit* of others, he does apply the lash of animadversion with a very unsparing hand. See pp. 486, 493 of the work concerning which we are speaking, and of which we shall only say, that it furnishes the most indubitable specimens of learning, acuteness, and judgment.

In the meantime the Professor was silently enriching the republic of letters by contributions to Maty's Review. The following is, we believe, a correct list of the articles which he furnished to that publication:—Schutz's Æschylus, vol. iii. p. 433: this is dated from Trinity College. Brunck's Aristophanes, vol. iv. p. 55. Hermesianax, by Weston, vol. v. p. 238. Huntingford's Apology for his Monostrophics, vol. vi. p. 93. He also furnished Mr. Maty with a transcript of the Letters of Bentley and Le Clerc, vol. ix. p. 253; but whether he wrote the account added to them, we are not enabled to state.

However mortified Mr. Porson might have felt by the rejection

tion of his proposals respecting Æschylus at Cambridge, he did not altogether forego the idea of publishing that author. At two several times he announced, in Maty's Review, an intention, which the learned must deeply deplore was never *fully* executed. (See Maty, vol. iii. p. 168. and iv. 328.) It seems, indeed, that some fatality attended every effort made by the Professor to restore some of his original brightness to that meteor of the ancient drama. Through the intervention of that admirable scholar, Dr. Chas. Burney, of Greenwich, the Professor concluded a treaty with Messrs. Elmsley and Payne, in consequence of which a new, but most improved edition, was to be printed at Glasgow. After the proofs of the first five or six plays had been regularly sent to the Professor, they suddenly stopped, and some time after it was discovered that the Scotch printer had used the paper for the folio edition. Nor was it known for a considerable period that the smaller edition was in existence, till at length the English booksellers discovered the fraud. In the Monthly Review for Feb. 1796 is some account of this abominable transaction, and to that we must refer our readers.

Although Mr. Porson, in consequence of the most untoward circumstances, did not appear before the public in works, avowedly written by himself, yet his mind was too active, or his disposition too friendly, to allow the world to be deprived of all the benefit of his immense erudition. He was an occasional contributor to the Monthly Review, to the Gentleman's Magazine, and, we believe, to other periodical publications. Concerning those which we have named we have to state, that the account of Robertson's Parian Chronicle, M. R. vol. 79, in the year 1788, p. 351, and vol. 80, p. 38, was written by him. From internal evidence we are disposed also to assign to him the Review of Knight's Essay on the Greek Alphabet, January 1794. Of three admirable letters, containing an ironical defence of Sir John Hawkins's Life of Johnson, and which appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine for 1787, under the signature of SUNDRY WHEREOF, he was unquestionably the writer. Some letters upon the contested verse, 1 John, v. 7. appeared also in the same work, which at length caused the inimitable and unanswerable letters to Archdeacon Travis. In that work it is difficult to say whether argument or wit, vivacity of manner, or patience of research, be most conspicuous. This work appeared in 1790;* and when it is considered that the subject, though abstruse, is of the highest importance, and that it is recommended not only by the qualities just mentioned, but by a most exquisite specimen of English composition, the neglect which it experienced from the author's countrymen is alike discreditable to their taste and their understanding. If our memory does not fail us, the Author received only 30l. for the work, and he was informed by the publisher that he had lost money by it. With good reason might Valckenaer exclaim, "*In Græcis istis Bibliis, dum juventâ vigebam, a me diligenter*

* We may here correct a slight inaccuracy in Mr. Perry's account of the Professor, as given in our last. The work in question was published before the Professorship became vacant; which, we think, was not till the year 1793.

genter tractatis, sexcenta possent similia demonstrari; sed quam pauci hoc tempore talia sibi monstrari desiderarent!" (Theocr. X Idyll. p. 230.)

When Mr. Porson was at length placed in that situation to which, if all the scholars then living could have been candidates for it, he unquestionably might advance the fairest pretensions, he seriously turned his thoughts to publication. In 1797 the Hecuba appeared, as the precursor of all the dramas of Euripides, had the editor been allowed that portion of health which would have enabled him to finish his design. The next year appeared the Orestes; the year after, the Phœnissæ; all these without his name, and printed in London. In 1801 the Medea appeared, printed at Cambridge, and with his name prefixed—the Syndics (a different race, it need scarcely be mentioned, from those who had slighted him in his earlier days) being disposed to give the warmest encouragement, not only to this work, but to every other in which he might be willing to engage. Under their auspices appeared also in 1802 a second edition of the Hecuba, with a supplement to the preface, and a very copious and important addition to the notes.

This work is so fully known, that it would be superfluous to attempt a panegyric upon its merits, even if it were our design to give a critical examen, instead of a chronological list. In answer to all the objections which have hitherto appeared, we shall briefly urge what he has himself applied to a canon of Dawes: *Ea, nisi machinis impulsa validioribus, æternum persistet inconcussa.* App. in Toup. p. 475.

The last work that he published was a third edition of the Hecuba. He had also proceeded far in a revision of the other three plays: but it is, perhaps, a circumstance seriously to be lamented, that he employed so much time in revising what he had already given to the world, instead of proceeding to correct the text of the remaining plays. But such was his scrupulous fidelity in regard to the duty of an editor, and so uncommon his accuracy in every thing which he undertook, that he never fully satisfied himself; and conceived that something still was wanting, where no one but himself could discover any symptom of deficiency.

We must, however, briefly notice some other, of his literary labours, which have hitherto been omitted, as we wished not to interrupt the series of his editions of the Greek plays. When Heyne's Virgil was re-published in London, the Professor was engaged to superintend the press. He was, we believe, handsomely remunerated; but every scholar must lament that such a mind and such attainments should be employed in merely mechanical labour.* In the year 1800 he was engaged in a work, much more suited to his powers, and much more beneficial to literature. We mean a collation of the Harleian manuscript

* To this edition some few, but *very few*, notes were added by Mr P. (See his preface.)—He also rendered some assistance to the edition of Brotier's Tacitus, which was printed in Scotland; but whether it consisted in original notes, or merely in a collation of the 4to. and 12mo. editions, we are not prepared to affirm positively. In the Herodotus, which has since been completed by Mr. Dunbar, he revised only a small part of the text.

script of the Odyssey, for the edition of Homer, which must ever be considered as a splendid attestation to the learning, taste, and munificence of the GRENVILLE family. Of this collation the editors speak in terms so classically appropriate, that we cannot deny ourselves the satisfaction of quoting their words. "*Istius Codicis collatio, quam humanissime in se suscepit Vir eruditissimus RICARDUS PORSON, et summa cum diligentia peragendam esse statuit, digna esse visa est quæ per se integra in medium proferretur. Ad calcem itaque ODYSSEÆ subjicimus, non nudam quidem illam, ex indigesta mole ut fit plerumque conflatam, et nulla in trutina castigatam, sed in eruditorum usum, pro ista Græcæ Critices scientia, et subacto judicio quo VIR EGREGIUS unus omnium maxime eminet, nitide atque affabre elaboratam.*"

It remains for us now to speak of the Æschylus, which, "shorn of its beams," deprived of the editor's last corrections, without notes and without the fragments, ungraced by the Professor's name, and without even a letter of preface, stole into the world in the year 1806. We are not informed of the circumstances under which it was at length permitted to appear; but we conclude, that the importunity of his friends and of the publishers extorted from him a reluctant consent, although they could not prevail upon him to furnish it with one word of introduction, still less to enrich it with his latest corrections of the text. Doubtless it has not come forth with half that advantage, either to the editor or to the public, that it would have possessed, had it issued from the press as a legitimate edition, the fruit of his last labours, the matured and well-digested effort of his mighty mind. Yet still we thankfully accept it, as a great and lasting benefit to Greek literature. In more than *two hundred* instances the text is improved; for the most part, by the admission of readings, which the Professor's own sagacity discerned amidst a chaos of errors; but in some places also by corrections, which he adopted from preceding editors. A method was pursued by him in this edition, which we earnestly recommend to the imitation of every critic. Where the text appeared faulty, and no emendation offered itself with sufficient authority to warrant its admission into the text, he marked the suspected place with an obelus. Of passages thus pointed out, both as a warning to inexperienced readers, and a guide to future critics, there are about *one hundred and fifty*. So that, unfortunate as this edition has been, the text is still improved in a greater number of instances than those in which it continues to be defective. And in regard to the remaining corruptions, we have little doubt but Mr. P.'s acuteness would have pointed out a probable remedy in most of the cases, had the work gone on to its end, without the occurrence of that calamitous fraud, which cannot be too much reprobated or deplored.

From this enumeration* it appears, that in point of *quantity*, the contributions

* It is possible that, in spite of our anxiety to procure the fullest and most authentic information, the list may still be incomplete; and, in that case, we shall feel obliged to any correspondent, who will supply the deficiency. If we would make a correct estimate of his literary labours, it will be necessary to add

contributions of Professor Porson to the public stock of knowledge were far from inconsiderable. In point of *merit*, they must be deemed invaluable. Whatever he has done, has been done in the *best* way; so that his editions may be appealed to as a standard, by which the qualifications of scholars for the office of editor may be measured, and as a guide by which their efforts may be directed. There were two qualities in the character of Mr. Porson as an editor, which are of the highest importance, and which, as they are attainable by every individual, it may be useful *to notice more particularly*. These are, *industry* and *honesty*. In collating a manuscript, in pursuing the variations of a reading through editions and lexicographers, in tracing the usage of a word through writers of the same age or upon the same subjects, his patience was never exhausted, his ardour never disconcerted. In point of *honesty*, whether it consisted in a scrupulous attention to the claims of his author, or those of his critical predecessors, his character appears the more illustrious, because it is more rare. Never would he allow a passage to be pronounced corrupt, without the fullest investigation; nor did he think himself authorised to admit any emendation into the text, without a very strong preponderance of evidence in its favour. When a text was manifestly corrupt, he would not disturb it, for the sake of admitting a plausible conjecture; because he held, and rightly held, that such a proceeding destroyed the traces of that evidence by which the original reading might in time be restored. In like manner, whatsoever merit any previous editor might possess, he invariably assigned to each his due portion of praise; and so far from suppressing what redounded to their credit, or adopting as his own what in fact was the property of another, he seemed to take a pleasure in bringing forward to his reader's notice every instance of happy discernment or ingenious illustration. For these qualities, added to his unrivalled skill in decyphering manuscripts, and to his penetration in discovering the scope of a passage and the very words which an author was likely to have used; recollecting also that he possessed a judgment, which steered an even course between precipitation and timidity, we have no hesitation in repeating, that we consider him to have been a COMPLETE CRITIC.

The works of Michael Angelo have been recommended to young artists, as the great model of excellence, and most worthy object of their imitation. In like manner would we most earnestly exhort every one, who aspires to the name of a scholar, to regard the productions of Professor Porson as the *study*, by which he is most likely to improve.

Nov. 15, 1808. HELLENOPHILUS.

add the double transcript of Photius, Collations of various MSS. and Editt. and various other critical matter, which we trust his papers will be found to afford in great abundance.

We hope to be enabled to give in our next number a Memoir of that excellent and venerable man, the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey, of Essex-street, who closed his earthly career on the third of November, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

ORIGINAL POETRY.

TO DUTY.

OFFSPRING of holy truth,
Maternal guide of youth,
Lo! to thy shrine no costly gifts I bring:
But thou, with aspect stern,
Wilt not, O Duty, spurn
Feeling's spontaneous simple offering.

Not mine the song of flame;
Not mine the hero's name:
Yet wilt thou not my humble efforts bless?
For I would call thee friend,
Thy voice with joy attend,
And walk with thee in silent usefulness.

Oft when I, shuddering, eye
The dark Futurity,
That silent untried path! and meditate
On all the ills and cares,
The sorrows and the snares,
Which there the young adventurer await;

And think with sickening glance
Upon life's awful chance,
How great the danger, and the task how vast;—
From the dark torrent's brink
I like a coward shrink,
Fear to plunge in, and wildly wish it past.

Then thou, with frown severe,
Reprov'st my servile fear;
"Why tremble thus, while *Duty* is thy guide?
"While beams my steady light,
"Fear not the blackest night,
"For ill shall ne'er befal thee at my side."

And trust in thee I *will;*
O keep me near thee still,
And teach me every terror to dismiss!
For ne'er have I believ'd,
And thou my hopes deceiv'd,
Thy yoke is easy, and thine end is bliss!

Should

Should Love's seductive wiles,
Should Beauty's melting smiles,
From prudence tempt my youthful heart to err,
While phantoms of delight
Dance by my dazzled sight,
And eager *Hope* forbids me to defer:

O then, oppose thy shield,
Nor let me weakly yield,
But bow submissive, and await thy will:
Within my throbbing breast,
Be every sigh repress,
And every fond aspiring hope be still!

Yet never shall my heart
Be taught the Stoic's art:
Far—far the apathy of pride remove!
Oh! better 'twere to feel
The wound that ne'er can heal,
Than, cold and callous grown, forget to love.

Where'er thou lead'st the way,
The summons I'll obey;
Bid me come to thee o'er the yielding wave!
For thou wilt o'er the tide
My steps upholding guide,
And when I'm sinking, stretch thine arm to save.

E'en shall thy stern command
Forbid my youthful hand
To hold sweet converse with the much-lov'd lyre,
Tho' not without a sigh,
I'd hang it up on high,
And bid with fond adieu the Muse retire.

Then, when in swift decay,
Fast ebbs my life away,
How sweet to hear thy soft approving voice!
How will thine angel-smile
The last sad hour beguile,
The dying pillow smooth—the sinking heart rejoice!

ADO.

July, 1808.

THE NURSING OF LOVE.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH,

By T. A. Anderson, Esq. of his Majesty's 19th Regiment of Foot.

WHEN first in Cyprus Love was born,
And on his blooming mother smil'd,
Disputes arose that very morn,
Each strove to nurse the beauteous child!

With all a mother's fondness blest,
The Queen of Beauty instant cried,
"Cease! cease your strife! from this fond breast
"My darling boy shall be supplied!

But Love was such a roguish child,
He'd gaze upon the heavenly spot,
'Till by the beauteous vase beguil'd,
The treasure there he quite forgot!

"Alas!" exclaim'd the Queen of Charms,
"He'll never thrive with me, I fear;
"I yield him now to other arms;
"Who will the smiling infant rear?"

Then Constancy and Truth arise,
And eager offer all their aid;
While Tenderness, who sought the prize,
Her fascinating charms display'd!

Then soft-ey'd Delicacy came,
And seem'd as if she wish'd to ask,
But felt her tender languid frame
Unequal to the pleasing task!

Desire appear'd too warm, they said;
They thought that danger might ensue:
Attention, then, the boy had bred,
But she would soon have spoil'd him too!

In short, the court could not agree
What nymph should have the general voice,
When Hope exclaim'd, "Oh give him me!"
And Love appear'd to like the choice.

When Pleasure heard all this, she thought
The preference due to her alone;
With hasty steps the infant sought,
Determin'd he should be her own.

Disguis'd like Innocence she went,
And every winning art display'd,
'Till Hope, unthinking, gave consent,
An unsuspicious simple maid!

O'ercome with heat, she wish'd to sleep,
Her head upon her arm repos'd,
And gave the smiling boy to keep
To Innocence, as she suppos'd.

'Twas this the wily maid desir'd;
Then gave him such delicious fare,
That on her bosom he expir'd
With joy too exquisite to bear!

What sorrow in each face appears;
The blooming little Love is dead!
And his fond mother, all in tears,
Despairing, droops her languid head!

"He breathes, he breathes! Oh be assur'd
"He's only sleeping," Pleasure cries,
"And will immediately be cur'd;
"A lethargy has clos'd his eyes.

Delightful task! see Tenderness
Attempts to wake the boy again;
She lulls him in her warm caress,
But sighs and kisses all are vain!

Then Folly shakes her rattling beads;
But unavailing every chance,
'Till Jealousy at last succeeds,
And wakes the infant from his trance!

LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION.

We are happy in being able to announce that the Rev. Dr. Rees has in the press two volumes of original Sermons on practical subjects.

Mr. Bigland's "View of the World" is in a state of considerable forwardness at press. It comprises a tolerably minute geographical description of all the countries of the world, with an account of whatever is particularly remarkable in each, followed by a separate historical view of every nation and people. In the historical part it has been the author's chief aim to trace the gradual progress of civilized society, and to point out the rise and operation of those causes which have contributed to the improvement of the arts of life, and to the prosperity, the political power and importance of different nations. In this view the History of Commerce is made to form a conspicuous and interesting part. The work will extend to five octavo volumes.

The title of Miss Owenson's new Novel, which we understand will make its appearance early in the present month, is "Woman; or, Ida of Athens." The

Mrs.

fair author proposes, in the character of her Greek heroine, to exhibit the influence of her sex in society.

Mrs. Grant's new work, under the title of Memoirs of an American Lady, with sketches of scenery and manners in America previous to the Revolution, is on the eve of publication.

A new Review has been announced as about to commence, upon a plan hitherto untried, in which not only the editor, who is Mr. Richard Cumberland, is avowed, but in which each critique is to be subscribed with the name of the writer.

Mr. George Montagu will shortly publish a Supplement to his History of British Shells.

The Rev. R. Nares is about to put to press a Dictionary, on the plan of Johnson's, of the Middle Language of England, or the Age of Shakspeare.

Mr. Molineux, of Macclesfield, is printing a new work on Short-hand, on quarto post, entitled, The Short-hand Instructor; or, Stenographical Copy-book. This work will contain, besides the short-hand alphabet, a new series of elementary lessons on ten plates, seven select specimens, with a supplementary plate, containing a centenary of the most useful short-hand contractions, arranged alphabetically. It is designed as a companion to his Introduction to Mr. Byrom's Universal English Short-hand, and is peculiarly calculated to enable the admirers of Byrom's Short-hand to acquire a perfectly correct and elegant style according to that system.

Memoirs of Dr. Paley, from the pen of a Gentleman who was one of his parishioners at Bishop Wearmouth, will appear in a few weeks.

Mr. Plumtre, of Clare-hall, will shortly publish four Discourses on the Stage, lately preached by him at Cambridge.

Dr. C. Burney's work, on the Chorusses of Æschylus, is nearly through the press at Cambridge.

Mr. Donovan has made very considerable progress in the thirteenth volume of his History of British Insects.

A work at this time of peculiar utility will very shortly make its appearance; it is entitled, "the Brazil Pilot; or, a Description of the Coast of Brazil: translated from the Portugueze of Manoel Pimentel, Principal Hydrographer to his Majesty John V. of Portugal. It will be accompanied by a considerable number of Charts of some of its principal Ports, from manuscripts of undoubted authority never before published.

Proposals have been lately issued by Mr. James Morrison, Master of the Mercantile Academy at Glasgow, for publishing by subscription a work, in two volumes octavo, entitled, The General Accomptant; being a complete Course of Mercantile Computation and Accomptantship, adapted to modern practice.

A new Selection of the most favourite Poetical Pieces, elegantly printed in four small octavo volumes, is just on the eve of publication, under the title of The Muses' Bower: the first volume, containing a collection of lyrical and pathetic pieces; the second, narrative, humourous, and epistolary; the third, descriptive and sacred; and the fourth, selections from the classics of antiquity. The work is embellished with two highly-finished vignettes, engraved on wood by Clennel.

A prospectus has been issued of a New Weekly Paper, entitled, The Family Gazette; it is to be printed in imperial octavo, of the largest size allowed to be stamped, in 32 columns. It is proposed that Supplements shall be occasionally published, so as to present the reader with all important public papers at full length, and with a digest and abridgement of parliamentary proceedings. An Index will be given at the end of each year, and the whole is designed to constitute a complete Annual Register of Public Affairs.

The Rev. Russell Scot's Sermon on "the New Creation," preached last June before the Southern Unitarian Society, is nearly ready for publication.

MONTHLY LIST OF NEW PUBLICATIONS.

AGRICULTURE.

General View of the Agriculture of the County of Bedford, drawn up by order of the Board of Agriculture and Internal Improvement. By Thomas Batchelor, farmer. 8vo. 14s. boards.

ANTIQUITIES.

Antiquarian and Topographical Cabinet; containing a series of elegant Views of the most interesting Objects of Curiosity in Great Britain, accompanied with letter-press description. Vol. 4th, 12mo. 15s. boards.

BIOGRAPHY.

Anecdotes of Painters who have resided or been born in England, with Critical Remarks on their Productions; intended as a Continuation to the Anecdotes of Painting by the late Horace, Earl of Orford. By Edward Edwards, late Teacher of Perspective, and Associate in the Royal Academy. 4to. 1l. 1s. boards.

EDUCATION.

An Introduction to Mr. Pinkerton's Abridgement of his Modern Geography, for the Use of Schools; accompanied with 20 Outline Maps, adapted to this Introduction, and suited to other Geographical Works, forming a Complete Juvenile Atlas. By John Williams. 12mo. 4s. bound; and with the Atlas, consisting of 20 Maps, 8s. 6d. The Atlas may be had separate, price 4s. 6d.

Mrs. Leicester's School; or, the History of several Young Ladies, related by themselves. Boards, 3s. 6d.

The Junior Class Book; or Reading Lessons for every Day in the Year, selected from the most approved Authors, for the Use of Schools. By William Frederick Mylius, Master of the Academy in Red Lion Square, London. 12mo. 4s. boards.

HISTORY.

An Abridgement of the History of Spain, from the earliest Accounts of that Country to the present Time. From the Spanish of Don Thomas D'Yriarte. 12mo. 5s. boards.

MEDICINE, SURGERY, &c.

An Exposure and Refutation of various Misrepresentations published by Dr. M'Grigor and Dr. Jackson, in their separate Letters to the Commissioners of Military Enquiry; interspersed with Facts and Observations concerning Military Hospitals and Medical Arrangements for Armies. By Edward Nathaniel Bancroft, M. D. Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Physician to his Majesty's Forces, and to St. George's Hospital. 8vo. 4s.

Identities ascertained; or, an Illustration of Mr. Ware's Opinion respecting the Sameness of Infection in Venereal Gonorrhea and the Ophthalmia of Egypt: with an Examination of the Affinity between ancient Leprosy and Lues. 8vo. 2s. 6d.

Cases of Diabetes, Consumption, &c. with Observations on the History and Treatment of Disease in general. By Robert Watt, Member of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow. 8vo. 8s. boards.

MISCELLANIES.

A Grammar of the Sanskrita Language. By Charles Wilkins, LL.D. F.R.S. 4to. 4l. 4s. boards.

The Trap; a Moral, Philosophical, and Satirical Work; delineating the Snares in which Kings, Princes, and their Subjects have been caught, since the Days of Adam. 2 vols. 12mo. 10s. 6d. boards.

The Economy of the Human Mind. By Eleonora Fernandez. 12mo. 3s. boards.

Sketches

Sketches, instructing and entertaining, in English, German, and French. By Dr. Render. 8vo. 6s. boards.

NOVELS, ROMANCES, &c.

The Ruins of Rigonda; or, the Homicidial Father. 3 vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. boards.

Alzylia; or, the Trial of Virtue. By Miss Wiemar. 4 vols. 12mo. 1l. 1s. boards.

Ned Bentley; a Novel. By Mr. Amphlett. 3 vols. 12mo. 15s. boards.

Malvina. Par Madame Cottin. 4 tomes, 1l. sewed.

Sir Owen Glendower, and other Tales. By Anthony Frederick Holstein. 3 vols. 12mo. 13s. 6d. boards.

The British Heiress; or, the Errors of Education: a Tale. By Eleanor Sleath. 5 vols. 12mo. 1l. 5s. boards.

POETRY.

Love Outright. 4to. 10s. 6d. boards.

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TRANSLATIONS.

A Translation of the Georgics of Virgil, with the original Text, and Notes critical and illustrative of ancient and modern Husbandry. By William Stawell, A. M. Rector of Kilmalooda, in the diocese of Cork. Crown 8vo. 12s. boards.

THEOLOGY.

Scriptural Illustrations of the Thirty-nine Articles of the Church of England, with a Practical Comment upon each Article; affectionately intended to promote religious Peace and Unity. By Samuel Wix, A. M. Rector of Inworth, in the County of Essex, and Vicar of St. Bartholomew the Less, London. 8vo. 8s. boards.

Puritanism Revived; or, Methodism as old as the Great Rebellion. In a Series of Letters from a Curate to his Rector. Price 2s. 6d.

On the Religious Improvement of Prisons: a Sermon, preached in the Cathedral Church of Durham, at the Assizes holden there, August 10, 1808; to which is added, an Appendix on Subjects connected with the Sermon. By John Brewster, M.A. Rector of Redmarshall, Vicar of Greatham, and one of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Durham. Price 1s. 6d.

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The Christians Views and Reflections during his last Illness, with his Anticipations of the glorious Inheritance and Society in the Heavenly World. To which are added, Two Sermons. By the late Rev. Simon Reader. 12mo. 3s. 6d. boards.

TOPOGRAPHY.

A New Picture of the Isle of Wight; illustrated by 36 Plates. To which is prefixed, an Introductory Account of the Island, and a Voyage round its Coast. 8vo. 18s. boards.

METEOROLOGICAL

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE.

		Wind.	Pressure. max.	Pressure. min.	Temp. max.	Temp. min.	Evap.	Rain, &c
	Oct. 19	NW	29.68	29.50	49°	40°	8	
a.	20	NW	29.68	29.29	53	42	5	.36
b.	21	W	29.55	29.48	54	38	.10	
c.	22	W	29.79	29.55	51	34	8	
	23	SW	29.55	29.30	52	42	.10	.42
d. c. b.	24	SW	29.69	29.55	54	38	.11	
e.	25	SW	29.69	29.15	54	46	.11	.14
1st Qr. *b.*	26	SW	29.40	29.15	56	42	.13	
e. d.	27	SW	29.42	29.39	53	40	8	.80
	28	SE	29.65	29.39	53	43	6	.25
f.	29	S	30.05	29.65	54	40	3	.21
	30	NE	30.33	30.05	54	43	3	
g.	31	NE	30.33	30.27	52	44	7	
b.	Nov. 1	NE	30.27	30.15	51	47	.14	
	2	NE	30.15	30.06	54	47	.13	
Full Moon	3	NE	30.30	30.15	48	42		
h.	4	NE	30.30	29.91	50	39	.30	
	5	Var.	29.92	29.88	47	25		
i. c.	6	E	29.88	29.72	45	36	7	
	7	E	29.72	29.66	47	41	4	
g. h.	8	NE	29.66	29.57	52	43	3	8
	9	NE	29.75	29.57	53	42	2	
k.	10	NE	29.84	29.72	54	42		
Last Qr. *b.*	11	NE	30.07	29.84	49	36		
	12	NE	30.13	30.10	46	37	.31	
c.	13	NE	30.12	30.06	41	30		
	14	Var.	30.11	30.00	42	28		
c.	15	S	30.00	29.63	51	33	9	
e. b.	16	S	29.63	29.29	54	49	.14	9
e.	17	S	29.29	28.81	56	44	7	.12
			29.86	29.66	50.96	39.76	T. 2.37	2.47
			M. 29.76		45.36			

N. B. The Notations comprised in each line relate to a period of 24 hours, reckoned *from* 9 a. m. on the day of the date. A dash denotes that the period so marked is to form a part of that allotted to the next observation.

NOTES.

a. Very dark and cloudy a. m. the wind rising.
b. Windy.
c. Hoar frost.
d. Hail.
e. Stormy nights.
f. Swallows seen for the last time.
g. Misty, the trees dripping.
h. Showers in the evening.
i Much rime on the trees a. m.; the leaves fall abundantly: a mulberry cast its whole foliage in an hour or two.
k. Much dew a. m.
l. No dew a. m. the sky being veiled with clouds. Some drizzling rain followed.

RESULTS.

Mean height of Barometer -	29.76 In.
Temperature - - -	45.36°
Evaporation - - - - - -	2.37 In.
Rain - - - - - - - -	2.47 In.

Winds variable: the prevailing one N.E. attended with dry weather. The South-west has been stormy and wet. The small meteors denominated *shooting stars* were observed on the evening of 27th. Almost all the rain of this period has fallen by night. It was closed with a fall of snow, which covered the ground on the morning of 18th.

L. H.

Plaistow, 22d of 11th mo. 1808.

RESULTS FOR OCTOBER.

Mean Pressure Barom. 29.497'—Highest 30.25—Lowest 28.70.—Range 1.55.
Mean Temperature - 44°59.—Highest 58°0.—Lowest 30°0—Range 28°0.
Spaces described by the Barometer in inches, 10.60. Number of Changes 12.
Rain, &c. this Month, 5.320 inches.—Number of Wet Days, 19.—Total Rain this Year, 22,200 inches.

WIND.

N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW
2	0	2	1	3	9	5	5

Total Number of Observations, 27.—Number of Stormy Days, 3.

From a retrospect of the above period, it will be seen, that it has been remarkably wet; indeed we could expect no other, when we consider the nature of the preceding month.—In the month of September, 1807, there was a fall of six inches, whereas the rain for last month did not exceed two inches and a quarter.—The quantity of rain, for this and last month, makes 8.030 inches; and that of the same month of the preceding year, 8.630 inches; consequently, the difference of the present period is about half an inch less. It is worthy of remark, that there has been much less rain during the last ten months, than those of 1807; the difference is 4.130 inches.

In viewing the Atmospheric *Curves*, as well as those formed by the Temperature, many notable changes appear:—From the 1st to the 4th, there was a gentle rise of the Mercury, and the same of Temperature. The Moon, on the 4th,

4th, having arrived at her full, the Mercury descended through a space of one inch; a similar decrease of heat occurred at the same time.—On the 8th, these effects were reversed.—On the 12th, the Moon having entered into her last quarter, a similar fall of Pressure and Temperature to that about the full, took place, when the limits of their range were much contracted, and continued so till the Moon arrived at her first quarter; at which period there was a very remarkable increase of Pressure, with a slight decrease of Temperature.—The space the Barometer made, from the 26th to the 31st, is 1.55 inches, which is the range for the month.

THOS. HANSON.

Manchester Lying-in Hospital, Nov. 3, 1808.

INTELLIGENCE

RELATIVE TO ARTS MANUFACTURES, &c.

Account of Reports of the Committee of the House of Commons relative to Wheel Carriages and Roads (continued from last Number.)

Mail Coaches.

The total number of mail coaches is about 220, and they go over from eleven to twelve thousand miles every day. Mr. Vidler contracts with coachmasters, who pay him at the rate of from 3d. to 3½d. a double mile out and in, according to the distance and other circumstances. About four years ago the box and boot of each mail were united to the body and put on horizontal springs, by which they were rendered more durable, the draught was made more easy to the horses, and the packages carried received less injury: every exertion has been also made to render the carriages as light as possible, and it is stated that they cannot be made any lighter, consistent with safety to the coaches and passengers. This remark must relate solely to the principle on which they are now made, for there is great reason to suppose that they might be rendered much lighter and more durable with perfect safety, by the adoption of Mr. Elliot's construction, in which perches and other parts of the framework are entirely dispensed with, and double springs made to give every necessary support in the advantageous manner mentioned in our third volume, page 182.

It is thought that it would prevent many accidents, if all coachmen of mails and other coaches were subject to corporal punishment, if by drunkenness or negligence any accident happened; at present the legal damage falls in most cases on the owner of the coach, while the coachman escapes free, which is evidently unjust

Ten mail coaches leave Edinburgh daily, and their exemption from tolls causes a heavy loss to the turnpike funds, amounting to 655l. annually.

When the mail was carried on horseback, or in such a way as neither to do injury to the roads nor produce any extraordinary profit to the persons who conveyed it, but little objection could be made to its passing free of tolls; but now, when the enormous weights carried by mail coaches do the greatest damage to the roads, and when their owners derive much emolument from them, there can be no just cause why the proprietors of mails should not contribute their share of the expence of repairing those roads on which their carriages travel.

According to the original plan, mail coaches were only allowed to carry four inside passengers and one outside passenger, beside the guard and the coachman. The post-office now allows one to ride on the coach, and one with the coachman;

coachman; and in some country places they are allowed to carry four outsides besides the coachman and guard, as a convenience to the inhabitants in remote parts of the country, and an inducement to persons to undertake the conveyance of the mail, and to furnish horses. The great profits obtained by the contractors for mail coaches have led to their encrease, and they are now so numerous that they run in all directions.

Roads and Highways.

The Committee refer to the evidence of Sir Alexander Gordon, and of the Rev. Mr. Morphew, of Norfolk, as being of peculiar importance in pointing out the great advantages which result from making roads in districts where they had not previously been much known. The necessity of adhering strictly to the proper direction of the road, without varying from the true line to gratify private purposes, is enforced in a very able manner by Mr. Charles Abercrombie in his communications, who is said to have lined out a greater extent of road, and with more satisfaction to the public in general, than any other engineer in the united kingdom.

In regard to a General Highway Act, the Committee wish to impress the House with the necessity of thoroughly revising and correcting that Act, and suggest the following alterations and amendments:

1st. They propose that surveyors shall be appointed over districts, formed by consolidating several parishes, who shall possess extensive powers with respect to directing the mode of repair of roads, seeing the orders of magistrates properly executed, and reporting on them; but who are not to meddle with the pecuniary concerns of parishes.

2d. That a more regular system of repairing and preserving the roads in every district be introduced: and to effect this, they recommend that all clashing of jurisdictions should, as much as possible, be avoided; that the powers of magistrates should be limited to the peculiar division for which they act; and that some restraint be imposed on the facilities of indictment, both in the case of a single magistrate presenting on his own view, and in that of other persons, without any previous step, stating before a grand jury a particular road to be out of repair, which must, if still permitted, completely overturn all plans for amending highways according to any deliberate system, founded on public utility or convenience.

3d. That all wilful acts, tending to injure the public roads, shall be made punishable, without particular notice, by moderate fines before a magistrate, with a power of mitigation; such as laying straw, permitting timber to remain on the road, placing stones there, or suffering any single stone of considerable size to remain there, which may have been used for supporting the wheels of carriages, making ditches capable of endangering horses or carriages, digging pits, or even scraping the roads at improper times or with improper instruments. The Committee also suggest the propriety of regulating the weight of carriages loaded with manure, and of preventing by proper provisions the injury which roads sustain by the practice of dragging timber on them.

More ample powers should also be given to the waywardens for collecing materials proper to repair the roads, and to remove the scrapings from them into the adjoining lands where necessary, with compensations to be fixed by the magistrates.

The Committee particularly recommended that a new adjustment of the compositions for statute duty should be made, and that in it peculiar attention should be paid to the breadth of wheels, compared with the number of horses used for draft, so as to encourage the use of broad cylindrical wheels, and to make the contributions for the repairs of roads in some degree commensurate with the damage they receive; and they propose, for the preservation of the roads, that all carts with wheels of less than six inches should be prohibited from using more than two horses.

With regard to Turnpike Acts, the Committee feel the subject to be so extensive, and to embrace so great a variety of cases and circumstances, that, in preference to pointing out any specific remedies, they rather again recommend the establishment of the parliamentary commission before mentioned, which,

by receiving annual accounts and statements, may correct abuses, and by comparing the practices of different parts of the kingdom, may be enabled to circulate useful information, and to recommend the best modes for adoption.

They, however, suggest the great importance of connecting with every future establishment of artificial property a sinking fund for its ultimate liquidation.

The necessity of some effective measures being taken for the regulation of the turnpike trusts is manifest, from the facts stated in evidence before the Committee; from which it appears, that in some instances these trusts have contracted debts bearing an interest equal to the amount of the tolls; and when these have been encreased, fresh debts were incurred; so that the contributions levied on individuals using the road became directed to purposes wholly different from the repairs. There appeared also great reason to suspect, that cases may be found, where persons taking the management of trusts, *are rather disposed to maintain establishments beneficial to themselves, than to relieve in an expeditious manner the public burdens.*

On the subject of the construction of roads and wheelways, the Committee refer to a proposed species of single railway, to the plan of stone railways, and to a method of improving roads by water, communicated by Mr. Jessop, which has been tried in several of the midland counties with success. In many cases they think it may be adviseable to pave at least part of a road, that is much frequented, in the manner adopted in the commercial road near London. And having learned that a considerable tract of road has been made by some detachments of his Majesty's forces in the neighbourhood of Blackheath, it has occurred to them that a portion of the army might be most beneficially employed in public works; and they suggest that, particularly in peace time, a considerable part of the forces should be engaged in making and repairing the highways of the kingdom.

The more minute particulars which should be attended to with regard to roads are, first, that the drains along roads should always be made within the fields; 2d. that there should be always a bank of earth about three feet high along the roads; 3d. that when a road is made on the side of a hill, it ought always to be sloped towards the hill, at about the inclination of one inch in twenty-four, which will prevent ice from being formed on the road, hinder drifts of snow from being lodged on it, by assisting the bank in directing the stream of the wind, and form an additional security from danger along the edge of precipices.

Boughs hanging over high roads should be cut off, and hedges kept trimmed, that the air and sun may be freely admitted to dry them, as roads where this is not attended to are almost always wet and slubby. It is probable that it would tend much to the preservation of roads, if all trees were prevented from being planted close to them, as the wet state in which trees occasion roads to remain injures them more than any other natural cause, besides making them disagreeable to passengers, and greatly encreasing the draft to the horses of all carriages used on them.

It would also be of advantage to have all waste land on the road side enclosed, and as much as possible in forming roads to avoid all short turnings, and to have no deep ditches at their sides; that all drains crossing roads should be covered, instead of forming hollows, as they now do, very dangerous from the sudden jolts they occasion; and that the ascents to bridges should be rendered less abrupt than they generally are, especially over canals. The formation of raised footpaths along roads in all situations would likewise be very useful.

The turnpike roads would become more advantageous to the public, were the toll-bars fixed in the most productive situations: one is placed *five miles* from Liverpool on the road to Prescot, which enables the opulent inhabitants, who have villas on that road, to go and return daily from them without paying any toll.

Surveys are as necessary for roads as for canals or railways. The waste of money and misapplication of labour which now takes place on roads that have not been properly surveyed is immense. A survey of the road from London towards Ireland, of the road to Edinburgh, and even of the Bath road, would be

be of great advantage, they all might be much improved by able engineers. General surveys should be made at once, because partial improvements may be lost, when general improvements shall afterwards be made; and steep hills remaining in the road in one county, would prevent in a great degree the benefit that the improved roads in another county would otherwise afford. It is thought by some that it would be advantageous to run roads along the banks of the canals, where the best levels are already taken through the counties; but this must be understood with some allowance. It would undoubtedly be beneficial to use those levels as a general mode of direction, and to follow them where they did not wind too much; but in many cases it would be expedient to depart from them, to prevent the roads from being unnecessarily lengthened; and in all cases the roads should be made, not directly on the banks, but at such a distance from them as not to interfere with the track-ways for the boats, and to avoid the needless exposure to danger which a close approach of the roads to the canals would cause, particularly to passengers in stages and mail coaches.

The best principles of directing and making roads are chiefly that they be made hard, smooth, and dry, of solidity and width sufficient for the trade that may be expected on them, and in the shortest direction consistent with their being as level as possible; in many cases a road may wind round the foot of a hill, without being longer than if it had passed over it; but even should this not be the case, if the time and labour be considered, as they should be, that it takes to draw a carriage over a hill, it would be often found that twice or thrice the distance might be passed on a level in the same time, with much less injury to the horses. All these considerations make it highly necessary that very exact and carefully-taken levels, plans, and estimates be made by intelligent surveyors previous to the commencement of any road.

We hope the importance of the subject will excuse the proportion of the pages allotted to this department which it has occupied. The reports have been abridged, so as to present as much as possible to our readers of the useful information they contain, without excluding other articles; and on revision we find nothing material to have escaped notice, except the injury which heavy carriages occasion to houses by the vibration they excite in them. This damage is very considerable in London, where the vibration is continued, and the loads unlimited.

The remarks in our last respecting the use of oxen on roads in preference to horses, we wish to be considered as relating only to individual interests. On farther reflection, we see that as the subject affects the nation at large, there are good reasons for preferring oxen, particularly as their more general use would both encrease the supply of food, and add to the resources against famine in years of scarcity; but as it cannot be expected that private persons would sacrifice their apparent interests to these considerations, it appears to be a wise measure to make the scale preponderate in the favour of oxen as much as possible, by exempting them from tolls, or by any other encouragement which can be devised.

On the Apparatus adapted for deoxidating Potash by Iron. By Mr. Hachette. Phil. Mag. v. 32. p. 89.

Messrs. Gay and Thenard repeated at the laboratory of the Polytecnic school at Paris, the experiments of Mr. Davy in 1807. They afterwards continued the enquiry in a new point of view. They proposed to themselves the discovery of a substance sufficiently oxidable to take off the oxigen from the alkalis; and their experiments were followed with the greatest success. On the 7th of March, 1808, they informed the Institute of France, that upon treating potash with iron in the fire of a reverberating furnace, the iron deoxidated the potash, and made it pass to the metallic state.

M. Hachette repeated the experiments of Messrs. Gay and Thenard, at the laboratory

laboratory of the Pages of Napoleon with the following apparatus: A quantity of iron filings was put into a gun-barrel, sufficient to fill that part of it which was inserted in the furnace; caustic potash was introduced into one of its ends not inserted in the furnace, and its extremity was luted; a tube of safety was adapted to the other end of the barrel, and a strong heat was then applied.

The furnace used was 25 centimeters (about ten inches) diameter, and was furnished with double bellows. While the furnace was strongly heated, the part of the barrel which contained the potash was cooled with ice. After the heat was continued for an hour, a small portable furnace of sheet iron was applied to the part of the barrel that contained the potash, by which it was melted. The gun-barrel being inclined a little towards the tube of safety, the fused potash came in contact with the iron filings, and in an instant the hydrogen of its water of crystallisation was disengaged by the extremity of the tube of safety, which was inserted under water.

This disengagement of hydrogen is a certain mark of the success of the experiment. When it slackens, from the liquid potash having cooled the iron, the small furnace placed under the potash, which keeps it liquid, may be removed, and the temperature be restored to the iron, which is necessary for its acting on fresh liquid potash. This last circumstance is similar to what takes place in the decomposition of water; for if too much water is poured on the red hot iron, the metal is cooled and the water passes off in vapour without being decomposed.

Before the potash was fused in order to make it pass to the iron, the part of the gun-barrel to which the tube of safety was adapted, and which serves as a refrigerant, was placed in ice.

In about half an hour from the moment at which the potash is fused, the disengagement of hydrogen ceases, and the operation is concluded.

When the furnace is quite cold, the safety tube is taken away, and the extremity of the gun-barrel is closed by a plug. To extract the metal, the gun-barrel is cut at the commencement of the part, which has served for a refrigerant, and the metal of the potash presents itself in the form of small brilliant laminæ, adhering to the sides of the gun-barrel. The greatest quantity is found close to the refrigerant; another portion is not condensed until it is very close to the plug of the safety tube: this last portion adheres very slightly to the gun-barrel, and the least effort is sufficient to detach it; it is even partly oxided by the air admitted during the cooling of the furnace; and when the whole is received over Naptha, this part is detached in laminæ, and exposes to view a white and brilliant metallic surface.

The portion of potash condensed nearer the furnace must be detached by a sharp chisel in the largest pieces possible; for in small molecules it inflames in the air, even at a very low temperature. When not detachable in large pieces, it must be kept in a gas deprived of oxigen, or in naptha. M. Hachette extracted it from the gun-barrel by plunging it in oil.

Portions of amalgamated iron and metallic potash are also found in the gun-barrel; they adhere very strongly to that part of it which occupies the middle of the furnace; they become green in air, and are easily decomposed, as the potash returns in a very short time to its first state.

To obtain the metal of potash on a great scale conveniently, a gun-barrel should be used of a large diameter, which must be heated throughout a great part of its length; and in a tube joined to its extremity the liquid potash should be so disposed that any quantity of it desired may be let to descend, which should be volatilised before it is admitted to come in contact with the heated iron; another gun-barrel, divided in two pieces, should be placed at the extremity of the former, which would serve as a refrigerant, and could be opened in order to collect the metal.

The chief precaution necessary in this process is, that the potash should be as dry as possible. The metal obtained is rather heavier than that procured by electricity, and seems to contain a little iron, but is very proper for all analytical experiments. By the process used in this happy experiment of Messrs.

Messrs. Gay and Thenard, the metal of potash may be procured in considerable quantities. Mr. Davy is stated to have found this process to succeed perfectly.

Patent of Mr. John Watson, for certain Improvements in the Art of Soap-making. Dated May, 1808.

After the soap has been made in the usual manner (by boiling fat oil with soap-lees, or the solution of a considerably pure alkaline salt) and is separated by the addition of common salt, instead of putting it in forms, to indurate it for sale, the patentee diffuses it in a large quantity of water (either hot or cold, as may be preferred for expedition), and again separates it by the addition of common salt. This process of solution and separation may be repeated a greater number of times, if necessary, and is applicable to soap before manufactured, as well as to that recently made. When old soap is used, it should be rasped or scraped, or be dried and pulverised, to expedite its solution.

The patentee states, that his intention in this process is to render the soap neutral, by separating any alkali from it which may have remained uncombined in the first making; and also to throw up any oil uncombined, from the boiling not having been carried to the precise point which is needful for the preparation of good soap.

The patentee also makes soap, which he declares to be of uncommon beauty, closeness, and uniformity, by the use of alcohol, in the following manner: He first purifies the soap by the process already described; or, if he finds it on examination to be sufficiently pure, takes it without farther preparation, and divides it into shavings or small portions, in the way before stated, and then mixes two parts of it with about one part of the spirit; but these proportions will admit of considerable variation: he then causes the soap and alcohol to unite by moderate boiling, and in this state pours them into moulds, to be divided into squares or cakes for sale; and he afterwards exposes those cakes in a place kept at a proper temperature for evaporating the spirits from the soap, which so encreases its density, and causes its parts to become so intimately blended, as to produce a *beautiful degree of transparency*.

The patentee in some cases adds a portion of sugar to the mixture, when a less degree of firmness is required; and as occasion may demand, adds also such well-known materials as may be needful to give it any peculiar scent or colour that may be most agreeable to its purchasers.

On the disadvantage of Jewelled Holes in Clock-work, from a paper by Mr. Walker, in the Philosophical Journal, v. 21. p. 236.

Mr. Walker gives an account of a transit clock of his, made by Mr. Berrand, which was found to have its jewelled holes much more liable to become foul and clogged than its brass ones. This clock was cleaned in July 1805, and on the 6th of Dec. 1806 it had become so foul as not to be made to go even when two pounds were added to its weight. On its being taken to pieces, in all its jewelled holes the oil was *very black and glutinous*, but in the others it was quite fluid; and it even required great force and some dexterity to draw out the spindle that carried the seconds hand. The clock was set going again next day, and continued to go well till the end of Oct. 1807, when it again went badly, and gained very much. It was taken asunder a second time about three weeks after this, when all the jewelled holes were extremely foul, black, and clogged; and in separating the jewels they were found to be strongly adhesive, yet the oil on the pallets was very fluid, and in a good state in all the brass holes.

On the great advantage of introducing Breeds of Vicunas, Lamas, and other foreign Animals into England.

In the Agricultural Magazine, No. 15, a paper signed W. S. strongly recommends the introduction of certain foreign animals into this country, particularly Lamas, Pacos, and Vicunas, and mentions that the friendly terms we are on with Spain affords a very favourable opportunity for this purpose. The following quotation from Buffon greatly corroborates the opinion both of its utility and practicability.

"I am persuaded (says Buffon) that those animals might succeed in our mountains, and particularly in the Pyrennees, as they are at present very numerous in the neighbourhood of the Straits of Magellan, where the cold is much more intense than in the south of Europe; and, consequently, that in order to preserve them, they should be landed in *Scotland* or even in Norway." And he adds, "I have dwelt the longer on this subject, because I imagine that those animals would be productive of *more real advantage* than all the metals of the New World."

The Lama is from four to four and a half feet high, in general it much resembles the camel in shape, only it wants the dorsal bunch; its flesh is good eating, its wool is excellent, and it carries a load of from 150 to 200lb. travelling pretty long journies in a country impassable to all other animals. They have no need of corn or hay; green herbage, of which they take but small quantities, being sufficient for their nourishment.

The Pacos is smaller than the Lama, but resembles it in shape and in all its qualities; the wool is, however, finer, being as good and as precious as silk, making excellent gloves, stockings, and cloth, and constitutes a valuable branch of commerce to the Spaniards. These animals are natives of South America.

The Vicuna is most similar to the above description of the Lama: two of them are at present in London; one, a female, at Brooke's, in Piccadilly, and the other, a male, at another place of exhibition (No 207) in the same street. The fine wool, called Vigonia wool, that sells so high, and of which the Vigonia cassimere is made, is the produce of animals of the above species.

Mr. Bakewell, in his interesting tract on wool, strongly advises the introduction of these animals; he mentions that some of them are nearly white, and that he has little doubt "that with proper attention they would grow a fleece free from the long coarse hair with which the downy coat is frequently intermixed. The wool, when clear from these hairs, would be worth 30s. a pound; and the flesh, if we may judge from the appearance of the animal, would be equal to venison." Mr. Bakewell likewise recommends the introduction of the breed of wool-bearing oxen of Hudson's Bay. It is probable the breed of rein-deer also might be introduced to advantage for swift draft.

Byron mentions, in his Voyage round the World, that he found animals of the Vicuna species in great numbers at Port Desire, in Patagonia, which is in latitude 46 south, and much colder than England in its general temperature. Some of these animals, he states, weighed two and an-half cwt. exclusive of skin and offal, and were excellent meat. From the above circumstances there can be no doubt that the introduction of these animals would be extremely advantageous to this country, and that the climate would very well agree with them.

ERRATA.

No. 23, p. 447, 8th line from bottom, for *was joined* read *were joined*.
p. 454, 11th line, for *as its is* read *as it is*.

DOMESTIC

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

LONDON AND MIDDLESEX.

In order to defray, in part, the great expence of rebuilding Covent-Garden Theatre, it is proposed to raise the sum of 50,000l. by subscription, in shares of 500l. each, under the immediate patronage of his Majesty. Each of the subscribers to receive, clear of the property tax, and all other charges, an annuity of 25l. to commence from the opening of the theatre, and to continue for the term of eighty-five years, with the addition of an annual transferable free-admission to any part of the theatre before the curtain, (private boxes excepted) for which the subscribers will be secured by the patent, and the new theatre, with all the property therein. The subscriptions to be paid by the following instalments, viz.

Deposit - - - - -	10 per cent. - - - -	50
February 1, 1809 - -	20 per cent. - - - -	100
April 1, 1809 - - -	20 per cent. - - - -	100
On covering in - - -	25 per cent. - - - -	125
On the day of opening	25 per cent. - - - -	125
		500

The subscriptions to be received by Messrs. Stephenson, Batson and Co.; and the whole of the subscription money to be lodged in their hands, together with 44,500l. received from the different Insurance Offices, for the sole purpose of erecting and completing the new theatre, and for providing the necessary materials for dramatic performances. Among the subscribers are, the Prince of Wales, the Dukes of York, Cambridge, and Bedford, the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earls of Dartmouth (Lord Chamberlain), Guildford, and Cholmondeley; Lord Viscount Montjoy, Sir Francis Bargeois, J. T. Vaughan, Esq., John Smith, Esq., Edward Stevenson, Esq., Lieutenant-colonel Cookson, Francis Freeling, Esq., Colonel O'Kelly, General Keppell, William Garrow, Esq., J. J. Angerstein, Esq.

Married. At *St. George's*, Hanover-square, the Hon. Fitzroy Stanhope, to Miss Caroline Wyndham.—John Butcher, Esq., of Park Hatch, Surrey, to Miss Sarah Burchell, second daughter of Mr. Burchell, of Fulham.—At *St. Mary-le-bonne*, Thomas Lack, Esq., of Edward-street, Cavendish-square, to Miss Catharine Parkins, of Cheafield-lodge, Herts.—The Rev. James Stuart Freeman, D. D. of St. John's College, Oxford, Prebendary of Lochford, Hants, to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. John Augustus Richter, of Newman-street.—At *St. George's*, Bloomsbury, the Rev. Joseph Benson, of Albemarle-house, Hounslow, M. A., to Miss Chiles, of Woburn-place, Russel-square.—At *St. Botolph*, Bishopsgate, Daniel Curling, Esq., of Tavistock-place, Russell-square, to Miss Bush, of Devonshire-square.—At *St. Catharine's*, Coleman-street, Benjamin Bushell, Esq., of Clive-house, Kent, to Miss Tomlin, of Fenchurch-street.—At *St. John's* Wapping, James Brown, Esq., of St. Catharine's, Tower, to Miss Elizabeth Dudman, youngest daughter of John Dudman, Esq. Hermitage.—At *Hackney*, Captain Hopkins, of the Second Life Guards, to Miss Chamberlayne, daughter of the late George Chamberlayne, Esq., of Devonshire-place.—At *St. Pancras*, John Peat, Esq., to Miss Anna Maria Hay, second daughter of the late Joseph Hay, Esq., of Parliament-street.—At *Ealing*, Captain John Hardy Godby, of the Royal Navy, to Miss Bell, of New-grove House.—At *Hammersmith*, Thomas Weale, Esq. of Great Woodcote, Surrey, to Margaret, second daughter of William Smith, Esq.—At *Hampton-court*, by special licence, George Vernon, of Clontarf castle, in the county of Dublin, Esq., to Henrietta, youngest daughter of William Braddyll, Esq., of Conesshead Priory, Lancashire.

Died. In *Lower Brook-street*, aged 84, the Right Hon. Guy Carleton, Lord Dorchester, Knight of the Bath, a general in the army, Colonel of the 4th or Queen's own Dragoons, Governor of Fort Charlemont, in Ireland, and Governor General and Commander in Chief in Canada. His Lordship is succeeded in his

his title and estates by his grandson, a boy about four years of age, the son of Colonel Carleton, who died in the East Indies.—In *Bryanstone-street*, aged 86, John Baynes Garforth, Esq. formerly M. P. for Cockermouth.—In *Maddox-street*, Mrs. Jane Campbell, of Carrick, niece of John, third Duke of Argyle.—In *Manchester-square*, Mrs. Charlotte Dalrymple, eldest sister of the late Admiral Dalrymple.—In the *New-road*, Marybone, Mr. Richard Whitehouse Jennings, of Shire-lane, many years vestry clerk of the parish of St. Clements Danes, and of the Liberty of the Rolls. The urbanity of his manners and probity in the discharge of his professional and relative duties, will long hold a place in the memories of his relatives and numerous friends.—Aged 82, Mr. Gittons, of Charlotte-street, Portland-place. After having confined his wife and daughters, by locking them into their apartments, he walked out into the fields on the other side of the new road, Mary-le bonne, where he was found next morning, drowned in a pond near Willan's farm. He had been for some time in a state of despondency, although in easy, if not affluent circumstances.—In *Essex-street*, Strand, aged 86, the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey, formerly Vicar of Catterick, in Yorkshire.—In *Park-street*, Westminster, Mrs. White, the wife of George White, Esq.—At *Bruce-grove*, Tottenham, J. Minnitt, Esq. of Holborn-bridge, distiller.—In the 60th year of his age, the Rev. Rochemont Barbauld, late minister of the Dissenting Congregation at Newington Green. Originally destined for the Church of England, of which his father was a clergyman, he was induced by the result of his theological enquiries to renounce all his expectations from that quarter, and devote himself to the ministry among the dissenters. The warm and stedfast attachment to truth which dictated this sacrifice, accompanied him through life; and to the acuteness of argumentation, in which he excelled, he joined the most perfect candour in attending to the reasonings, and judging of the motives of other men. A fervent spirit of devotion characterized his public services, and animated them with the genuine eloquence of feeling. His intellectual powers were accompanied with a goodness of heart, an affectionate simplicity, a strict integrity, and generous kindness, that endeared him to all who knew him; and the cloud which gradually gathered over his mind in his latter days, was a subject of severe distress to his nearest connexions.—At *Brompton-crescent*, Edward Jones, Esq.—In the *King's Bench Prison*, aged 23, Mr. —— Alexander, a native of Prussia: he threw himself over a three pair of stairs window, and was killed upon the spot. His father, who was a respectable merchant in Berlin, having extensive dealings with different merchants in this country, became embarrased in his circumstances through the decrees of Bonaparte, and his son came to this country with the intention of recovering such debts as were due to his father, but he had no sooner landed than he was arrested, at the suit of a creditor, and had remained in confinement upwards of fifteen months.—At *Enfield*, aged 76, Thomas Jones, Esq.

BERKSHIRE.

By the accounts produced to the annual meeting of the Governors of the Reading Dispensary, it appears, that the receipts from the 13th of October 1807, to the 14th October 1808, amounted to 373l. 19s. 10d., and the deburse-ments to 361l. 6s. 3d., leaving a ballance in hand of 17l. 13s. 7d.; and that the number of patients admitted during that period amounted to 409, of whom 341 had been relieved, 23 dead, and 45 remaining on the books.

Married. Count Charles Magnus Frederick, of Holmer, to Miss Susan Watts, daughter of the late Mr. Watts, of Abingdon.

Died. Edward Angles, Esq. of Hargrave-house, Eastwoodhay, near Newbury.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

Married. At *Aylesbury*, Sarah, the wife of Samuel Bate, Esq., Deputy Judge Advocate of Port Philip, New South Wales, and daughter of Mr. Edward Adams, late of Aylesbury.—At *Wexham*, W. Hutton, Esq. of Bolton-park, Lancashire, to Miss Ford, second daughter of R. Ford, Esq. of Wexham.

Died. At *Datchet*, Higgins Eden, Esq. of Charlotte-street, Bedford-square.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

The Seatonian prize is this year adjudged to Mr. Cole, Fellow of Magdalen College, for his poem on the *Holy Wars*.

James Henry Monk, Esq. M. A. Fellow and Classical Lecturer of Trinity College, is elected Greek Professor in the room of the late Mr. Porson.

The Rev. Caleb Elwin, of Pembroke Hall, and Mr. Robert Walpole, of Trinity College, B. A., are admitted Masters of Arts; and Messrs. Charles Devon, and John Connop, of St. John's, and Philip Douglas, of Bene't College, Bachelor of Arts.

The Master and Fellows of St. John's College have presented the Revd. Robert Parry, B. D., one of the senior Fellows of that Society, to the Rectory of Staplehurst, in Kent, vacated by the death of the Rev. Mr. Grove; and the Rev. Anthony Mainwaring, B. D. Fellow of the same society, to the Rectory of Barrow, in Suffolk, vacant by the death of the Rev. George Ashby; the Rev. James Gatcliffe, of Magdalen College, has been collated by the Warden and Fellows of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, to the cure of Gorton, vacated by the death of the Rev. J. Darbey, and a dispensation has passed the great seal, enabling the Rev. Robert Boon, Fellow and Senior Bursar of St. John's College, to hold the Rectory of Ufford, in Northamptonshire, with the Rectory of Stokerston, in Leicestershire.

Married. At *Little Shelford*, Brigadier General A. Campbell, of the 76th Regiment, to Miss Elizabeth Ann Pemberton.

Died. Aged 63, the Rev. James Nasmoth, D. D. Rector of Leverington, in the isle of Ely; a man of sound principles and enlarged mind. His early application to literature was rewarded by repeated academic honours, and his many valuable publications will endear his memory to the learned. In 1777, he published his "Catalogus Librorum Manuscriptorum quos Collegio Christi et B. Mariæ Virginis in Academia Cantabrigiensi legavit Reverendissimis in Christo Pater Mathæus Parker, Archiepiscopus Cantuariensis;" in 1778, "the Itineraries of Symon Son of Symon, and William of Worcester," and a Tract on Leonine Verses, from the above Manuscript; and in 1787, a new edition of Bishop Tanner's "Notitia Monastica." To these he has added several Sermons and Charges as a Magistrate. In this latter situation he was eminently conspicuous for his correct knowledge of the laws; and he filled the office of chairman of the sessions of Cambridge and Ely for a long series of years with moderation, justice, and impartiality; at once distinguishing himself as the gentleman, the lawyer, and the divine. He was formerly Fellow of Bene't College, B. A. 1764., M. A. 1767., D. D. 1797.

CHESHIRE.

The beautiful building called the Commercial News Rooms, recently erected and just opened, at Chester, does honour to its founders, to the architect, and to that venerable city. The little expence and inconvenience which the subscribers have incurred in the erection of this structure, produces a confident hope of greater and more general improvements in Chester. In this laudable object, the corporation are taking the lead, in the erection of a new Bridge over the river.

Died. At *Chester*, aged 67, Mrs. Cowan, relict of George Cowan, Esq. formerly of Cavendish-square, London.—At *Wilmslow*, on his way to Cheltenham, Lieutenant-colonel James Paterson, late of the Bombay establishment.

CORNWALL.

Died. At *Ruan Lanyborne*, aged 73, the Rev. John Whitaker, rector of that parish, author of the History of Manchester, Defence of Mary, Queen of Scots, and other publications distinguished for their learning, laborious research, and elegance of diction.

CUMBERLAND.

The Keswick annual sheep fair was numerously attended, and the shew of improved sheep superior to any former year. The cross of the South Down was highly approved. The prize wether, the property of Mr. Gibson, had

gone one entire winter upon Skiddaw, which is pretty conclusive of their ability to resist the climate. Mr. Spedding's and Mr. Calvert's Pennystone or Skiddaw-field sheep, promise to be a valuable stock. Premiums for the best tup was adjudged to —— Kennedy, Esq. for a South Down; second to Wm. Calvert, Esq. for a Pennystone. The premiums for the produce of a cross by a finer coated sheep, to Messrs. Gibson, Ireland, and Crossthwaite. A number of South Down tups were sold for the improvement of the mountain stock. The result appears highly flattering to the views of the society, and there remains little doubt, that their laudable intentions of improving the native stock and fleece, will be crowned with success. The wastes in Northumberland are now universally covered with valuable sheep, yielding a considerable profit to the owners. Forty members of the Workington Agricultural Society, dined at the Queen's Head, Mr. Spedding in the chair; and passed the day in great hilarity and good humour, highly gratified with the prospect of their endeavours being crowned with success.

Married. At *Whitehaven*, Thomas Cope, Esq. of Coventry, silk merchant, to Miss Benn, niece of Admiral Lutwidge.—At *Penrith*, Mr. Anthony Preston, Attorney-at-law, to Miss Robinson, eldest daughter of Christopher Robinson, Esq.

Died. At *Cockermouth*, the Rev. John Wheatley, rector of that place.—Lieutenant Fitchet, (p. 363) enlisted in the year 1776, as a private in the 1st. battalion of the Royal Artillery, and in the following year embarked for America, where he was actively engaged. He was present at the taking of St. Lucia, in 1778, and served in that and other West-India islands, until he was made prisoner by the French in 1781, but was exchanged in 1782, shortly after which, he was sent to Canada, where he remained for five years. In 1791; he embarked for India as Serjeant-major to the detachment of Artillery, under Major Scott. In this capacity he served in the army under Lord Cornwallis, at Seringapatam, in the same year, and was at the siege and capture of Pondicherry, in 1793. In 1797 he was appointed to an ensigncy in the 73rd foot, and the same year purchased his lieutenancy. During the long period of his services in the East, he had the honour of commanding the Nizam's Artillery in the Mysore war, and was at the taking of Seringapatam, in 1799. In numerous other engagements he acquitted himself with credit to himself and advantage to his country. One trait of decisive resolution in the character of Lieutenant Fitchet, for which he, and those engaged in the enterprize, received the thanks of the superior officers, ought not to be omitted. On the 31st of July, 1800, Lieut. Fitchet, in company with Lieut. Jackson and fourteen men of the 73rd, volunteered their services to swim across the Mulpurba river, which they accomplished, though under the guns of the Manooly Fort, and succeeded in bringing over from the enemy a large boat, and four field guns; and destroyed seven chests of ammunition. He has left a son, a lieutenant in the 75th regiment, who from the age of ten years, was with his father in most of his battles in the East.

DEVONSHIRE.

Married. At *Exeter*, J. G. Hopkins, Esq. of Coachmaker's-Hall, London, to Mrs. Evans, only daughter of Joseph Gattey, Esq. mayor of Exeter.—William Hewitt, Esq. of Jamaica, to Miss Mary Cornish, daughter of Philip Cornish, Esq. of Barfield-buildings.—Major Smith, late of the 14th light dragoons, to Miss Eliza Coles, of Southernhay-place, daughter of the late James Coles, Esq. of Taunton-lodge, receiver-general for the county of Somerset.—At *Braton Clovelly*, the Rev. Philip Carlyon, rector of St. Mawgan, Cornwall, to Miss Phear.—At *Topsham*, Lieut.-Col. Head, of the 13th light dragoons, to Miss Ravenscroft, daughter of Edward Ravenscroft, Esq. of Portland-place.—At *Plymouth*, Henry Frederick Bythsea, Esq. Lieutenant in the 1st. Royal Lancashire Militia, to Miss Eliza Meredith.—At *Gretna Green*, Captain John Impey, of the Royal Navy, son of Sir Elijah Impey, to Miss Cazal, of Exeter. The young lady is a ward in chancery, and will possess a handsome fortune when of age.

DURHAM.

DURHAM.

Married. At the Friends' meeting-house, *Stockton*, Mr. John Richardson, of Bishopwearmouth, to Miss Sarah Blaxland.

Died. At *Durham*, aged 92, Mrs. Elizabeth Loughborough.—Aged 95, Mr. George Fairless, one of the brethren of Sherborn hospital.—At *Bishopwearmouth*, aged 42, Edward Hogg, Esq. ship-owner.

ESSEX.

Married. At *Colchester*, Capt. Charles Craven, R. N. Governor of the Royal Hospital at Haslar, to Mrs. Brooke, relict of the Rev. John Moore Brooke, rector of Falkingham and Hespringham, in Lincolnshire, and youngest daughter of the late Capt. Judd, R. N.

Died. At *Colchester*, aged 72, Mr. Edward Capstock, one of the aldermen of the corporation.—At *Maldon*, aged 92, Mr. Samuel Barker.—At *Little Wakering*, William Meaking, Esq.

GLOUCESTER.

Married. At *Bristol*, Henry Shanahan, Esq. of Cork, to Miss Elizabeth Archer, youngest daughter of the late Thomas Archer, Esq. of Sutton-Coldfield, Warwickshire.—At *Westbury-upon-Trim*, the Rev. N. Watts, of Kingsteignton, Devon, to Miss Soden, daughter of Capt. Ambrose Soden, of Sligo.—At *Newent*, Thomas Richardson, Esq. to Mrs. Bower, relict of Mr. Hubert Bower.

HAMPSHIRE.

Died. At *Selborne*, the Rev. John Corry, vicar of that parish, and late fellow of Magdalen college, Oxford.—At *Portsmouth*, Maria Marshall, servant to Mr. Busher, of Broad-street, Portsmouth. This was a singular, melancholy, and affecting case. It appeared in evidence, that the unfortunate deceased girl cherished an affection for a young man at Portsea, who had promised her marriage, but had proved faithless and married another. This circumstance preyed exceedingly on her mind; for several days she attended to the ordinary duties of her service with melancholy and disorder. At length she went to a friend's house, where she bewailed her disappointment, wrung her hands, and cried bitterly. In a distracted state of mind, she left the house, went and bought arsenic, called at a relation's house, and asked for a cup of cold water, into which she threw the poison, and drank it off, saying, "God bless you, I shall never see you more, for I shall be a dead girl in half an hour." After wandering about two hours, she returned to her friend's (at 12 o'clock); and having gained admittance, she said her mistress was gone to bed, and she could not get in. She went to bed in her friend's house, when she soon became very ill; and after languishing eight hours under the painful effects of the poison, expired. A letter, which she had written to the young man, on hearing that he had married another person, was produced. It was conceived in terms of strong and sincere affection for him.—Verdict, *Lunacy*.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

The late anniversary of the Herefordshire Agricultural Society was more numerously and respectably attended than on any former occasion. The cattle shewn for the premiums were also allowed, on all hands, to be very generally superior to those exhibited at any former meeting. The first number of the "POMONA HEREFORDIENSIS:" now publishing under the auspices of the Society, was laid before them, and highly approved of. It contains coloured engravings, highly finished, of the *Redstreak*, *Golden Pippin*, and *Fox-whelp*, with a short history and description of each, by J. A. Knight, Esq. The premium for the best new variety of the apple, was adjudged to Mr. Knight for the Foxley Apple, being a cross between the Yellow Siberian Crab, and the Orange Pippin; in size it is nearly equal to the Old Golden Pippin; the pulp is of a deep yellow colour, and the juice remarkably rich and saccharine, the wood and blossom are supposed to be as hardy as the native Crab: a Premium for the best

best three-year old heifer, was adjudged to Mr. Edward Jeffries, of the Sheriffs, and another for the best pen of fine wooled ewes; five premiums were also awarded to servants in husbandry for the faithful discharge of their duties, during periods of from thirty-nine to twenty-six years, and two to labourers, for having brought up large families without parochial assistance. After dinner, Sir Charles Morgan gave notice of a similar society being about to be begun in Monmouthshire, and invited the members of the Herefordshire society to assist at their first meeting, and to partake of the well-known hospitality of Tredegwr.

Died. At *Ledbury*, aged 47, the Rev. Congreve Selwyn, rector of Pixley, and youngest son of the Rev. Charles Jasper Selwyn, late vicar of Brockley, in Worcestershire.—At *Horn House*, aged 61, William Money, Esq. late of Whetham-house, near Calne.

HERTFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Knebworth*, Robert Mappletoft, Esq. of Spring Hill, near Long Melford, Suffolk, to Lucinda, second daughter of William Henry Haggard, Esq. of Knebworth-place.—At *St. Alban's*, R. Lydeckker, Esq. to Miss Wolf, late of Rolston's-farm, Writtle, Essex.

Died. At *Roston*, aged 73, Mr. Edward Day, Attorney at law.

KENT.

Married. At *Canterbury*, John Morrins, Esq. of the Archbishop's Palace, to Miss Carter, eldest daughter of William Carter, M. D.—At *St. Laurence, Thanet*, John Curling, Esq. to Miss Mary Bedford, only daughter of the late Gilbert Bedford, Esq. of Newland, near Ramsgate.—At *Dover*, J. Deschamps Lacy, Esq. Paymaster of the Shropshire Militia, to Miss Catherine Mantell Boyce, eldest daughter of J. Boyce, Esq.

Died. At *Canterbury*, aged 47, Mr. Alderman Bristow, printer and bookseller: and treasurer for the eastern part of the county. He was many years proprietor of the Kentish Chronicle, and has bequeathed 100l. to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, and twenty guineas to the Lying-in charity, lately established in that city.—In her 100th year, Mrs. Jancock, widow.—At *Lee*, aged 67, Samuel Brandram, Esq.—At the vicarage, *Lenham*, aged 75, Frances, relict of James Best, Esq. of Park House, Boxley.—At *Blackheath*, aged 80, Mrs. Ann Morris, third and only surviving daughter of the late Edmund Morris, Esq. of Loddington Hall, Leicestershire, and formerly a representative in parliament for that county.

LANCASHIRE.

Married. At *Liverpool*, Mr. Thomas Alty, son of Daniel Alty, Esq. of Knowsley, to Miss Jordan, daughter of the late Mr. Jordan, of Knotty Ash.—James Gill, Esq. of Brongmen, in Montgomeryshire, to Frances, daughter of Thomas Lowndes, Esq.—Mr. G. Harrison, hair-dresser, and master of the Billiard-room, to the widow Grimes, at Parkgate, of the same place, head bathing-woman to the ladies who frequent that shore. He was a married man, a widower, and a bridegroom, within three weeks.—At *Manchester*, the Rev. Christian Frederick Berg, pastor of the Moravian brethren at Fairfield, to Miss Hannah Tempest, of the same place.—At *Seddon*, George Jennings, Esq. of the 5th foot, to Mrs. Sarah Seddons, widow of Mr. Lee Seddons, late of Acres Barn.—At *Ulverston*, the Rev. William Miller, B.D. late fellow of St. John's college, Cambridge, to Miss Margaret Towers, Duke-street, Ulverston.

Died. At *Manchester*, aged 27, Mr. John Lightbourne, partner in the house of Worthington, Baxter and Co.—After ten years illness, the Rev. James Bayley, M. A. of Wittington, senior fellow of the collegiate church of Christ.—At *Liverpool*, aged 69, Mrs. Gertrude Hodgkinson, widow of William Hodgkinson, Esq. of Sowerby, near Garstang.

LEICESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Sheepy*, the Rev. Thomas Cotton Fell, rector of the North and South Medieties of Sheepy, to Miss Mary Green Mott, daughter of William Mott,

Mott, Esq. of Lichfield-close.—At *Lutterworth*, the Rev. Richard Hartley, to Frances, youngest daughter of Mr. John Hudson.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

A considerable quantity, supposed to be about 1300, of small Roman copper coins, were discovered lately at Timberland, near Sleaford, in ploughing a close of Mr. Ward's, of that place. They were in a Roman earthen pot, which was broken by the plough, and are coins of Augustus, Tiberius, and the first Claudius: many of them are in fine preservation.

Married. At *Belton*, the Rev. John Grundy Thompson, rector of that parish, to Miss Harvey, eldest daughter of Mr. Harvey, of Hunnington.

Died. At *Stamford*, aged 78, the Rev. Edward Edwards, Warden of Brown's Hospital, to which situation he succeeded on the death of the Rev. Thomas Hurst in 1785, having then been Confrater of the hospital sixteen years.—At *Louth*, the Rev. John Theodosius Langhorne, L. L. B. vicar of Harmondsworth and Drayton, Middlesex: and of Little Grimsby, in this county, only son of the late Dr. Langhorne, the celebrated author of "Fables of Flora," &c. formerly rector of Blagdon in Somersetshire. He was formerly of Sydney college, Cambridge, L.L.B. 1793.

NORFOLK.

Married. At *Norwich*, George Morse, Esq. Captain in the West Norfolk Militia, third son of John Morse, Esq. to Miss Hannah Tasker, second daughter of the late William Tasker, Esq.—R. Gooch, Esq. of Croydon, Surrey, to Miss Bollingbrooke, daughter of R. Bollingbrooke, Esq.—At *Trunch*, Capt. Green, of the Cambridgeshire Militia, to Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. M. Ward.—At *Downham Market*, Edward H. Grigson, Esq. of Watton, to Miss Dixon, daughter of Shuckforth Dixon, Esq.—At *Brockdish*, Robert William Morris, Esq. of Earlsham, to Mary Ann, second daughter of Samuel Safford, Esq. of Brockdish Hall.—At *Oxburgh*, Mr. Twiss, of Brettenham, to Miss Wright, of Coolkirk. On this occasion, Mr. Twiss gave a good dinner, with a proportionate quantity of ale, &c. to every poor family in Brettenham.

Died. At *Norwich*, aged 83, John Webster, Esq. many years a resident of East Dereham; his death will be long lamented by a numerous circle of friends, as he was in the fullest sense of the word, a good and amiable character.—At *Bawburgh*, aged 82, Mr. John Wagstaffe. Active benevolence and integrity of heart, joined to great cheerfulness of disposition, marked his character through life; and his close, under great bodily suffering, was dignified by an humble resignation and patience, which clearly demonstrated, that his mind in that awful moment experienced divine support.—At *Lynn*, aged 89, Walter Robertson, Esq.—At *Kettlestone*, Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Adkin, Esq. formerly of Yarmouth.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

Married. At *Peterborough*, Mr. Thomas Cooke, surgeon, of that city, to Miss Gates, eldest daughter of William Gates, Esq. Deputy Registrar of the diocese of Peterborough.—G. Walker, Esq. of Norman Cross, to Miss Pressland, only daughter of Thomas Pressland, Esq.—At *Boddington*, John Boydell, Esq. of Trevallyn Hall, Denbighshire, to Ann, eldest daughter of Thomas Golightly, Esq. of Liverpool.

Died. At *Brompton*, John Bennett, Esq. of London, late of Watford, in this county.—At *East Farndon*, the Rev. Nathaniel Mapletoft, late of Jesus college, Cambridge, last surviving son of the Rev. Nathaniel Mapletoft, late rector of Broughton.—At *Weeden Beck*, aged 83, Mrs. Norris.

NORTHUMBERLAND.

Married. At *Newcastle*, Capt. Twining, of the Royal Artillery, to Miss Naters, daughter of Joseph Naters, Esq. of Sandyford.—At *Norham*, William Pratt, Esq. of Morris-Hall, to Miss Cole, daughter of the late John Cole, Esq. of Holy Island.

Died. At *Newcastle*, Mr. John Morrison, cashier in the bank of Messrs. Batson and Company.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

Married. Henry Machin, of Eakring, Esq. to Ann, daughter of John Swan, of Ollerton, Esq.—At *Mansfield*, Thomas Robotham, Esq. of Doveridge, Derbyshire, to Miss Stevens.

Died. At *Nottingham*, of an inflammation of the lungs, Thomas Grist, Esq. —At *North Collingham*, John Pym, Esq. a lineal descendant of the republican Pym, who died in 1644. His only son having died abroad, this branch of the male line becomes extint. Mr. Pym, and two other gentlemen, who were at sea-side, all caught the ague at the same time, and, what is remarkable, have all died on their return home.

OXFORDSHIRE.

William Knatchbull, B. A. and the Hon. Henry Legge, of Christ Church; are elected Fellows of All Souls College.

The Rev. Thomas Waters, M. A. of Magdalen Hall, Student in Divinity, is admitted Bachelor, and Doctor in Divinity; the Rev. Thomas Scott, M. A. Student in Divinity, of Magdalen College: Bachelor in Divinity; the Rev. Peter Frye Henley, Francis Lawley, Esq. and Rev. Thomas Henry Ashurst, of All Souls; Rev. William Lockaine Frith, of St. John's; and Rev. Richard Henry Baker, of Wadham College, Students in Law: Bachelors in Civil Law, and Mr. Julian Busby, Student in Music of Magdalen Hall, Bachelor in Music.

Messrs. John Blackburn, of Brazenose; William Edward Rouse Boughton, William St. Clare, Rev. John Storer, Robert Phillemore, Rev. Wallis Levitt, Archdale Wilson Taylor, Rev. Christopher Jones, Rev. Charles Smelt, and Rev. Frederick Master, of Christ Church; John Moore, of Exeter, James Gover Bedford, and Rev. William Bohun Yeomans, of New College; Henry Ducane and Philip Lake Godsal, of Oriel; Rev. Charles Wrottesley, of All Souls; Rev. Charles Jarvis of Trinity; Rev. Edmund Paley, of Queens; Rev. Thomas Davies, Rev. William Ashmead Pruen, and Rev. John Peglar, of Worcester; and Rev John Mayor, and Rev. Procter Robinson of Lincoln College, B. A. are admitted Masters of Arts; Robert Gordon, Esq. of Christ Church, Bachelor of Arts, Grand Compounder; and, Messrs. Charles Wayland, of Wadham College, Thomas Newport, of Worcester, John James Culley, of Corpus Christi, Charles Monro, of Christ Church; Joseph Butler and George Hough of Pembroke, Hugh Hughes, and John Bonsall of Jesus; John Ford, of Brazenose, and, George Davis, John Barnet, and Thomas Fleet, of University College; Bachelors of Arts.

The Rev. Edward Drax Free, D. D. Fellow of St. John's College, is presented by the President and Fellows of that society, to the living of Sutton, in Bedfordshire, vacated by the death of the Rev. S. Kettilby, D. D.

The Rev. W. Fletcher, A. B. of Wadham College, is instituted to the Rectory of Donhead, St. Andrew, and the Rev. F. C. Witts, A. B. of the same college, to the rectory of Upper Slaughter, Gloucestershire. The Rev. James Stokes, M. A. Fellow of Exeter College is presented to the rectory of Birchanger, in Essex: the Rev. John Nelson, M. A. Fellow of Queen's College, and master of Appleby school, is presented to the rectory of Sulhamstead, Berks: and the Rev. J. Deane, of Brazenose College, to the rectory of Carwen, Merionethshire, and the precentorship of the cathedral of St. Asaph.

Died. At *Oxford*, Mrs. Savigny, wife of John Savigny, Esq. of Long wall. —At *Curbridge*, near Witney, aged 83, Mr. Thomas Wright. He was, notwithstanding his great age, in possession of his mental faculties to the last, and his death was apparently in consequence of a gradual decay of nature, rather than of any particular disease. He was remarkably humane and benevolent, and the many generous and charitable actions which he performed without the smallest ostentation, would have dignified a more ample fortune. That the strictest honesty and integrity marked all his transactions through life, all those who best knew him, among whom is the writer of this article, can bear testimony: and his many private virtues will render his death a real loss to his family

family and friends.—At *Bodicot*, on the 4th of October, Mr. John Smith, maltster and road surveyor: on the 7th died his wife, (or more properly his widow:) on the 10th his daughter; and on the 14th his eldest son; four grown up persons, in one family, all well, and dead in the course of ten days.—At the house of her mother, Mrs. Marshall, of Enstone.—Aged 27, Mary, the wife of the Rev. William Loggin, of Buckish, in Devonshire, and rector of Long Marston, in Gloucestershire.—At *Rousham*, Sir Clement Cotterel Dormer, Bt. late master of the ceremonies, and one of the magistrates of this county.

SHROPSHIRE.

Died. At *Wellington*, aged 81, Mrs. Ann Gardner, second daughter of the late Rev. Laurence Gardner, Vicar of Ercall, in this county.—At *Bridgnorth*, Ann, relict of Thomas Warner, Esq. formerly of the East India Company's naval service.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

A grand match of single-stick, Somerset against all England, took place at Frome a few days since, and afforded much excellent sport: it was truly a feast for the amateurs of that manly exercise. The principal object of this match was to afford the Somerset and Wiltshire gamesters an opportunity of displaying their prowess. The Wiltshiremen, after losing six heads, declined for the first day all farther contest; and the Somersetmen of course secured that day's prize, but not without first exciting the admiration of the spectators, by the excellent sport amongst themselves that they displayed. The second day, a very strong party from Wiltshire attended, and both parties (though in the most friendly manner) seemed determined to uphold the fame their counties have so long enjoyed. The Somersetmen, who on this day met the Wiltshire without padding, had six tyes of two heads each, before their opponents could claim *one*; at length, however, the Wiltshire obtained *two* tyes; but the odds being so great in favour of Somerset, those gamesters offered the two Wiltshire tyes their portion of the prize, which they cheerfully accepted, and both parties spent the remainder of the day together with good will and harmony.

Married. At *Bath*, Benjamin Barber, Esq. of the East-India service, to Miss Stroud, only daughter of William Stroud, Esq.—Major-general Richardson, to Mrs. Scott, widow of D. Scott, Esq. of the island of Antigua.—The Rev. Dr. Phillott, Archdeacon and Rector of Bath, to Lady Frances St. Lawrence, daughter of the late Earl of Houth.—At *Bedminster*, J. Roberts, Esq. of Taunton, to Miss Hare, daughter of Mr. John Hare, of Bristol.—At *Clifton*, Philip Protheroe, Esq. of Bristol, to Miss Sophia Smith, of the Mall, Clifton.—At *Shepton-Mallett*, Joseph Nipper, Esq. of Stockhouse, Churchill, to Miss Taddle, of Shepton-Mallett.

Died. At *Bath*, aged 44, Sir Henry Paulet St. John Mildmay, of Dagmersfield Park, in Hampshire, Bart. He was the grandson of Sir Paulet St. John, who was created a Baronet in 1772, and died in 1780, at the age of 76:—a downright country squire, supposed to be the original from which Henry Fielding sketched the "Squire Western" of "Tom Jones." His son, Sir Henry St. John, sat in parliament for the county, having come in principally through the interest of the late Duke of Chandos, who wished to get his interest at Winchester, and succeeded. He died in 1784, at the age of 47, leaving to his successor, the late Sir Henry, an estate heavily incumbered, in consequence of the expensive habits of its former possessors. His son, Sir Henry, the subject of this article, was born in 1764, and received the rudiments of education under Mr. Gilpin, at Cheam, from whence he was removed to St. John's College, Cambridge, where, being of quick parts, he was esteemed a respectable scholar. In 1786, he married Jane, eldest daughter, and coheiress of Carew Mildmay, of Shawford House, Esq. (a grand-daughter of his ancestor Sir Paulet's last wife) and took her family name. Her fortune was at first but moderate, but in consequence of a series of bequests from her family connections, he at length became possessed of immense property: not

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less than 20,000*l.* per annum. He first came into parliament for Westbury in Wiltshire, in 1796, but having retrieved the antient family interest in Winchester, he was returned for that city in 1802, without opposition, and continued to represent it till the General Election in 1807, when, through the ministerial influence he was elected a member for Hampshire, and by his death there is now a vacancy in the representation of that county. In parliament (except in one or two instances) he was a steady supporter of the administration, but it has been alleged, that his reason for taking part at all times with the servants of the crown, was, the ambition of obtaining a seat in the upper House. Mr. Pitt, though sufficiently profuse of it to others, turned a deaf ear all his solicitations for this honour, but the present administration seem to have paid attention to his wishes, for it has lately been reported in the county, that he had obtained a promise of being included in the next batch. His public avocations did not occupy the whole of his attention, for in 1802 we find him accompanying Mr. Nield in his visits to the various gaols in the metropolis; and in 1805, he published a second edition in seven vols. 8vo. of "The Light of Nature pursued, by Abraham Tucker, Esq." to which he added "some account of the Author," by himself. He generally resided at Dagmersfield Park, where his establishment was so splendid, and his hospitalities so expensive, that his income, large as it was, could not prevent his being sometimes embarrassed. To the poor in his neighbourhood he frequently made large donations, and by them in particular his loss will be regretted. Besides his eldest son, now Sir Henry Carew Mildmay, one of the members for Winchester; he has left a widow and fourteen children.—Mrs. Tanner, relict of John Tanner, Esq. of Tatcombe, Wilts.—Mr. Bisani, a native of Italy, and an eminent master of the Italian and French languages, which he had taught in that city for many years with the greatest success and reputation. He was an affectionate husband and a man of integrity; highly valued and sincerely regretted by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance.—At *Cheriton*, the Rev. Samuel Gatehouse.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Married. At *Wolverhampton*, H. Bayley, Esq. of Great Barr, to Miss Catherine Barber, of Wolverhampton.—At *Wolverhampton*, Mr. H. Sloane, lace manufacturer, of Wellingborough, to Maria, third daughter of the late Mr. John Proud, of Bilston.

Died. At *Elliston*, The Rev. James Eyton Mainwaring, rector of that parish.—At *Endon*, near Leek Stafford, aged 59, Thomas Sutton, Esq. whose integrity and punctuality will always be respectfully remembered by all who knew him.— At *Acton Trussell*, aged 100, Mrs. Hall.—At *Newcastle-under-Lyme*, aged 56, Mrs. Wilson, wife of Mr. Alexander Wilson. She retired to rest apparently in as good health as usual, but was seized with the complaint which terminated her existence at four o'clock in the morning, and expired in a few minutes.

SUFFOLK.

Married. At *Lowestoft*, the Rev. Thomas Harris, of Braddon in Northamptonshire, to Caroline, second daughter of the late Rev. Dr. Marriott of Cotesbatch, Leicestershire.

Died. The Rev. Sir Henry Pix Heyman, vicar of Fressingfield, with the rectory of Withersdale united. He was formerly a Fellow of Emanuel College, Cambridge, B.A. 1784, M.A. 1787, B.D. 1791. At *Brompton*, Mrs. Kerr, wife of Major General Kerr, of the Staff of the Eastern district, and Commander at Normancross, and the vicinity. At *Yoxford*, aged 74, Mrs. Bachelor, relict of Thomas John Bachelor, Esq. of Horstead, in Norfolk.

SURREY.

The great Holland-tide Fair for animals of all kinds, commenced on the 14th of last Month, at Kingston-on-Thames, and in the memory of the oldest inhabitant never produced a finer sample of cattle, the prodigious droves of sheep and black cattle continued coming in during the two preceding days, and

and owing to the extreme fineness of the weather, the animals appeared to the greatest advantage. The concourse of people was immense, and if the vast space allotted for this annual business is surveyed with attention, so amply filled in every point, the mind is filled with admiration at the real riches of the country; however, as usual the sale was dull, though far better than last year; there were some few scores of the Merino breed which did not fetch the money wanted for them, owing to the number lately brought into this country.—A grand importation of pickpockets and housebreakers has taken place in the neighbourhood, as several houses can testify, the house of Sir Thomas Sutton, Bart. near Kingston, was broke open two nights before and robbed of several valuable articles, with which the villains made off: and Wimbledon Common has already commenced its winter campaigns to the great annoyance of the Kingston malsters and others so continually on the road. Of such a low description are these infamous depredators, that a few evenings since they took the few pence a poor fisherman possessed, after robbing every other person that was going into Kingston.

The fourteenth anniversary of the Christchurch Agricultural Society was held on Monday the 7th ulto. at the George Inn, when the following premiums were adjudged by the Surveyors of the Society:—The best turnip crop to Mr. Daw; the second to Mr. Whicher; the third to Mr. Jackson. The best cultivated heath land to Sir George Tapps; the second best to General Cameron. The best thatchers (the subscribers' own labourers) Mr. Jackson, Mr. Aldridge, Mr. Barslem. The best turnip hoers, Mr. Jackson, Mr. Mills, and Mr. Whicher. The best cow, Mr. Daw; the best bull, Mr. Hill; the best sow, Mr. Jackson; the best boar, Mr. Quartley; the second best to Mr. Mills; the finest woolled ram, General Cameron; the finest woolled ewe, Mr. Hunt; the best fatted wether, Mr. Daw; the best fatted ewe, Mr. Hill. Premiums were also given to the four best ploughmen with two horses without drivers; to the two best ploughmen with oxen; to four boys not more than fourteen years old, who ploughed the best; to six poor men, bringing up families without parochial assistance; to eight servants, (male and female) for long and faithful services.

Married. At *Christchurch*, Mr. James Crutwell, of Sherborne, Dorset, printer of the Dorchester and Sherborne Journal, to Miss M'Allam, of Blackfriars Road.

Died. At *Esher*, aged 79, Henry De Ponthieu, Esq.

SUSSEX.

The ploughing match for the piece of plate given by the Sussex Agricultural Society, took place on Friday the 11th ulto. in a field near Lewes. Nine ploughs contended for the prize, neither of which were of those that are in general use in Sussex. The judges made their award in favour of a plough sent by T. Tourle, Esq. of Landport, which was drawn by oxen; the plough is usually known by the name of Wood's plough; another plough of the same kind, drawn by horses, also started, but the performance was decidedly in favour of the oxen. A plough was sent by the Earl of Chichester; a Scotch plough by Mr. Graham; a double shared, and a Norfolk plough, by Mr. Richards; two ploughs by Mr. Ellman; and a new patent plough by Mr. Plenty, of Lambeth; but to the credit of Mr. Wood's, who is a respectable farmer in the western part of Sussex, his plough bore away the palm.

Died. At *Hurstsperpoint*, Stephen Simmons, a shepherd's boy. He had taken shelter from a heavy rain in a cart shed, where two large rollers were placed one upon the other, the uppermost of which fell upon him, and unfortunately killed him upon the spot. A dog which attended the deceased, was the means of leading to the discovery of the accident, by repeatedly running home, and returning to the hovel, until he attracted the attention of the boy's father, who at length followed the dog to the hovel, and there found his ill-fated son lying on the ground, and the fatal roller upon his head.

WARWICKSHIRE.

The following wonderful escape from destruction occurred lately at Atherstone:—During a violent storm of wind, the miller belonging to the windmill

near that place, finding it out of his power to stop the sails of his mill, called in the assistance of a neighbouring millwright, who succeeded in stopping their progress; but afterwards, ascending the sails to fasten the cloth, he was, by a sudden squall of wind, carried round with them several times, before assistance could be given to stop the rapidity of their motion, but which was at last effected, and the poor fellow descended, without injury, from this uncommon vehicle. The sails had been once stopped when he was on the upper sail, and consequently with his head downwards.

Died. At *Haselar*, aged 74, John Haynes, Esq. late a partner in the Alcester Bank.—At *Studley Mill*, aged 86, Mr. H. Moore. His remains were attended to the grave by three brothers and a sister, whose united ages amounted to three hundred and sixty-eight years.—At *Birmingham*, aged 57, the Rev. Joseph Green, pastor of the General Baptist Church, in Lombard-street.

WESTMORELAND.

A human skeleton was lately found in a stone quarry, at Sleagill, near Shap. It is supposed to have lain a considerable time, and had been put there by violence, as it was in a posture bent nearly double; it is further worthy of remark, there were round each arm a brazen plate about four inches broad.

As a specimen of the long-horned breed of oxen, in Westmoreland, Mr. Simpson, of Wattsfield, near Kendal, bought, in March, 1806, four three-years old oxen, at the sale of the late Mr. Wilkinson, of Pallet-hill, near Penrith, which he fed on hay and grass only. They were killed and sold at Liverpool, by Mr. Edwards, butcher, in Dale-street, on Saturday the 8th and Saturday the 15th days of October, 1808, at the following weights and prices, viz.

	l.	*s.*	*d.*
4 hides, 597 lbs. at 5d. per lb. - - - - -	12	8	9
Ditto fat, 443lbs. at 6d. ditto - - - - -	14	15	4
Ditto small offal - - - - - - - - - -	4	0	0
Do. Carcasses, 4308 lbs. aver. 6d. lb. - -	121	3	3
	152	7	4

Died. At *Kendal*, aged 85, Christopher Fenton, Esq. senior alderman of the corporation.—Aged 82, Mrs. Moore, of Strickland gate.—At *Brakenthwaite*, near Burton, aged 59, Mr. James Jenkinson, formerly one of the Schoolmasters at Yealand. He made it his last request that his body might be deposited under a small wood in one of his fields at Yealand.—At *Urswick*, near Ulverstone, aged 25, the Rev. Joseph Accomb, curate of Kendal.

WILTSHIRE.

Married. At *Salisbury*, Mr. William Atkinson, son of Thomas Atkinson, Esq. of Fisherton-Anger, to Miss Smith, daughter of Mrs. Smith, of the Close.

Died. At *Colne St. Dennis*, after a short illness, the Rev. James Hare, M.A. rector of that parish, and vicar of Stratton St. Margaret. Author of an "Essay on Scepticism," and several Sermons: a man of great learning and extensive benevolence, whose loss will be severely felt by a numerous circle of friends, and especially his poorer neighbours, to whom his purse and advice were never denied.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Married. At *Worcester*, George Frederick Knype, Esq. of the 11th dragoons, to Miss M. A. Williams, youngest daughter of the late John Williams, Esq. of St. John's.

Died. At *Bucknell*, aged 82, Pennie Marsh, Esq. As a companion he was both communicative and attentive; of unaffected manners and manly cheerfulness, willing to please and not difficult to be pleased: a benevolent friend and a pious christian. The loss of such a man will long be regretted by all who knew him.—At *Oldswinford*, near Stourbridge, aged 69, Mrs. Barrington, widow of John Harris Barrington, Esq. late of Forrest, Montgomeryshire.—At *Wollas-*

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ton hall, near Stourbridge, Mrs. Addenbrooke, wife of John Addenbrooke Addenbrooke, Esq., who, with three sons, the issue of their marriage, has now to deplore an interruption of the most exemplary domestic harmony and felicity. But the loss of this amiable woman will not be felt by her family and relations only—the engaging cheerfulness and affability of her disposition, the unaffected warmth and kindness of her heart, and her anxious and tender solicitude to encrease the comforts, soothe the sorrows, and relieve the wants of all around her, endeared her to the whole of the neighbourhood where she resided, who testify their acknowledgment of her distinguished virtues by the only homage they can now pay—their lamentations and their tears.—At *Pershore*, aged 64, John Drew, Esq.—At *Kidderminster*, aged 73, Mr. Timothy Dobson, a gentleman well known and highly esteemed for his sterling integrity and excellence of character. Few men in England had travelled so long as he did (perhaps none) as he continued going his regular journies after he was upwards of seventy years of age and until within little more than a year of his death.—At *Stoke Priors*, aged 90, Mrs. Watcham, relict of Mr. John Watcham. She was an affectionate wife, tender mother, and sincere friend. A few weeks ago she and two other persons were picking hops at the same crib, whose united ages amounted together to two hundred and seventy-four: and there are three persons now living in the village of Stoke, whose ages amount to the same number of years.

YORKSHIRE.

A most extraordinary series of imposture and credulity has recently been developed at the Rotation Office in Leeds. The parties were Mary Bateman, of Campfield, near that town, and Wm. Perigo and his wife, of Bramley. It appeared that in August, 1806, an application was made to this woman by Perigo to cure his wife of some complaint. Mary declined to undertake the cure herself, but said, she had a friend at Scarborough, a Miss Blyth, who could "read the stars," and collect from them the knowledge requisite to remove all corporeal and mental maladies, and, as a preliminary step, required that Perigo's wife should send her flannel petticoat to Miss Blyth, in order that she might from that article of dress collect a knowledge of her disorder. The petticoat was sent, and a propitious answer returned, wherein it was required, that the medium, Mary Bateman, through which all communication betwixt the astrologer and the patient was to be made, should have four guinea notes presented to her, and she was in return to give Perigo four other guinea notes, inclosed in a small bag, into which, if either his own curiosity, or the still stronger curiosity of his wife, should induce them to look, the charm would be broken, and sudden death would be the consequence. Soon afterwards a letter arrived from Scarborough, directing that another guinea should be paid into her hands.—Similar requests were repeated and complied with, till forty guineas had been thus extorted from these infatuated people, under a promise, however, that they should, by and bye, be allowed to open the bags, and these bags, they were told, would be found to contain all the money they had advanced. After about six months had expired, Perigo was desired to buy a new bed, with all the necessary appendages, and send it to Mary Bateman, through whose hands it was to be transmitted to the nymph of Scarborough. The bed, &c. which cost eight pounds, were bought, and notes, to the amount of thirty pounds more, paid at various times into the hands of the impostor. A set of china was also furnished to her.—Perigo and his wife, thus drained of all the money they had in the world, and all the sums their former good credit had enabled them to raise, and the wife's health still growing worse rather than better, became impatient to look into the mysterious bags, and extract from them the wealth they contained. Mrs. Bateman then received, as she said, a packet from Scarborough; this packet contained a powerful charm, which was to be mixed up in a pudding, to be prepared for the purpose, and of which Perigo and his wife were to eat, but on no account to allow any person to partake with them. The husband eat sparingly; he did not like the taste; but his ill-fated wife, less scrupulous, eat freely. They both became sick almost immediately, and continued in the most deplorable situation for twenty-four hours: the wife lost the use

use of her limbs, and, after languishing five days, died on the 24th May, 1807, a victim of credulity. Perigo recovered partially; but from that time to the present he never had the perfect use of his limbs. Part of the pudding was, by way of experiment, given to a cat, and it died; some fowls also picked up other parts of it, and shared the same fate. Contrary to the direction of Mary Bateman, Perigo applied to a surgeon for advice, and was told by him that he had taken poison, but fortunately not in a quantity sufficiently large to occasion his death.—Notwithstanding the death of his wife, the charm continued to operate on the husband. At one time he went to Manchester by the direction of this Jezebel; at another he sent her one of his wife's gowns; again she contrived to coax or frighten him out of another gown, a petticoat, and the family Bible! And last of all she demanded from him half a bushel of wheat, and three seven-shilling pieces inclosed. His creditors at length became impatient, and the hopes of getting any part of his property back failing, he determined to brave all danger, and look into the mysterious bags—but what must have been his surprise and vexation to find that the contents of these bags were not worth one penny! and to find himself a pauper, without property, and with a ruined constitution.—The bubble now burst; and he laid his hopeless case before some of his neighbours; by their direction Mary Bateman was apprehended; when brought before the magistrates, she in part confessed her delinquency, and admitted that there was no such person as Miss Blyth in existence, but that the whole was a mere phantom, conjured up to forward her vile purposes. The magistrates have committed the offender to the house of correction, but whether to be tried for swindling practices, or to be removed from there to the county gaol, to take her trial for wilful murder, is not yet known.

Married. At *Elloughton*, William John Lenthal, Esq. of the 2d, or King's own Dragoons, eldest son of John Lenthal, Esq. of Burford Priory, Oxfordshire, to Frances Mary, eldest daughter of the late Thomas Terry, Esq. of Beverley.—At *Seaton*, Edward Mostyn, Esq. only son of Sir Pyers Mostyn, Bart. of Talaire, Flintshire, to Frances, eldest daughter of the late Nicholas Blundell, Esq. of Crosley Hall, Lancashire.—At *Thirsk*, Thomas Turton, Esq. of Karesborough, to Miss Richardson.—At *Northallerton*, Gray Bigge, Esq. to Sarah, eldest daughter of the late Edward Moore, Esq. of Stockwell, Surrey.—John Harper, Esq. of Selby, to Miss Myres, of Gateforth.—At *Well*, Mr. James Lomas, of Mukley, near Rippon, paper manufacturer, to Miss Metcalfe, of Snape, near Bedale.

Died. At *Leeds*, aged seventy-four, Mrs. Kenion, relict of the late James Kenion, Esq.—At *Little Bank*, near Settle, aged ninety-eight, Mrs. Alice Atkinson, one of the people called quakers. She was the last of the sisters of that name who were so well-known and respected by the society, of which she was truly a worthy member.—At his farm-house, at *Wath*, near Rotherham, Mr. Christopher Scaife, aged about 62. He was a native of Bedale, and went at an early age into the racing stables of the late John Pratt, Esq. under that well-known and excellent training groom Mr. Christopher Jackson.—About the year 1766, Mr. Scaife was brought forward as a public rider, (Mr. C. Jackson having declined at the York August Meeting 1765, in consequence of the horse he rode, Mr. Fenwick's Shuttle, breaking both his legs, a little above the fetlock joint, when running for the King's Plate). At York, on Friday 1767, Mr. Scaife rode that celebrated mare A-la-Greque, by Regulus, and won the great subscription purse, for 4-year olds, 4 miles, beating easy All-fours, Protector, Bishop, Lash, Brown Helmsley, Barleycorn, &c. Mr. Pratt had engaged the late Mr. John Singleton to ride A-la-Greque, but Lord Rockingham purchasing Barleycorn of Mr. Wm. Preston, the night before running, Mr. Singleton was obliged to ride that horse, he being his Lordship's fixed jockey; and Mr. Pratt, in consequence thereof, put on Mr. Scaife, who displayed such skill and judgment in riding, as afterwards established him a first-rate jockey.—He continued rider for Messrs. Pratt, Fenwicke, &c. until about the year 1773, when he was recommended by those gentlemen to Lord Rockingham to succeed Mr. Singleton as rider, who had resigned his situation as a jockey from age. Mr. Scaife afterwards succeeded Mr. Lunn, as training groom to his Lordship: and was continued in that situation by Earl Fitzwilliam,

liam, until the 17th of May last, when he retired, and was succeeded by his son Mr. John Scaife. At Stamford, June 27, 1793, Mr. Scaife was engaged to ride Sir William Lowther's Minor, by Magnet, for the Hunter's Stakes, when before starting, she unfortunately fell backwards with him, and broke his collar bone, several ribs, and he was otherwise much hurt by her falling upon him, and he never rode in public after. Mr. Scaife, through the whole course of his life, was very much respected by a numerous circle of friends and acquaintance as an upright and truly honest man.—At *Tadcaster*, aged 74, Mrs. Ann Greenwood. —At *Boynton*, near Bridlington, the seat of Sir Wm. Strickland, Bart. Robert Wallis, many years brewer to the family. Early in the morning, while attending the boiling copper, he by some accident fell into it. His cries alarming the servants, he was found laid in the brewhouse, having by some means contrived to get out of the copper. Surgical assistance was obtained, but without effect; he died at one o'clock the same day.—At *Sandal*, aged 22, Mrs. Margaret Mortimer Crashaw, wife of John Crashaw, Esq. of Beeston-hall.

WALES.

On Thursday, the 3d inst. the Members of the Pembrokeshire Agricultural Society, and of the Narberth's Farmer's Club, met at Narberth, when, for the further encouragement of servants in husbandry, they agreed to consolidate their premiums for this year's ploughing match. The ploughing took place in a large field on the farm of Mr. James, of Camphill, within a mile of the town; eleven ploughs started for the Welch prizes, and six for the free prize for Welch and English ploughmen.—The weather was uncommonly fine, and every person present appeared highly pleased with the success of this laudable institution; the progressive improvement in this branch of husbandry exceeding every expectation. After the ploughing was over, the company proceeded to a sale of some new Leceister ewes belonging to the Right Hon. Lord Cawdor, which being finished, they sat down to an elegant dinner at the White Hart inn, where the evening was usefully spent in conversation on Agricultural subjects.

Died. At *Swansea*, John Stedman, Esq. of the Razees, near Ledbury, in Herefordshire, and one of his Majesty's justices of the peace for that county.—Aged 64, John Williams, Esq. of Llwyn-y-berllan, near Landovery, in Caermarthenshire. His integrity, fidelity, and liberality, as well as affable and obliging manners, eminently endeared him to a numerous circle of friends. His loss will be long and sincerely regretted by all his acquaintance and the neighbouring poor.—At the *Pool-house*, in the parish of Pendrey, Caermarthenshire, aged 92, Mr. Edward Dalton, a truly pious and upright man. He had resided in the same house nearly sixty-nine years, and brought up a large family with the most exemplary credit, uniting in himself the tender parent, affectionate husband, and sincere friend, and quitted this sublunary existence highly esteemed by all his neighbours and acquaintance.—At *Dolgelly*, Mr. Thomas Richards, attorney-at-law.

SCOTLAND.

At the late meeting of the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr, a case of a very singular nature came before it. During the harvest of 1807, there was a great deal of wet weather, and much corn destroyed and carried away by the floods. The potatoes were also greatly injured, so as to render them extremely scarce and dear, in consequence of which, much distress prevailed in many districts of Scotland. At the end of one of the weeks it brightened up, and a drying wind had prepared the corn for being housed. The Rev. Mr. Wright, minister of Maybole, at the conclusion of the forenoon's service on the following Sunday, stated to his congregation, that he conceived the favourable change of the weather might be made use of to save the harvest on that day, without violating the Sabbath. Several of his parishioners availed themselves of their pastor's advice. At the next meeting of presbytery, one of his reverend brethren denounced him as having violated the fourth commandment; and a solemn inquiry was voted by the majority of the presbytery. Against this resolution a complaint

complaint and appeal was made to the synod by a numerous body of the presbytery, not only because they conceived there was no good ground for such inquiry, but also, because the movers of it had not complied with the express injunction of the form of process, by having had a previous private communication on the subject with Mr. Wright. This appeal came before the synod at the last meeting. Very able pleadings were made on both sides, after which it was moved and seconded—"That the synod should find that the presbytery of Ayr have acted in this matter in a precipitate and informal manner, and that their sentence ought to be reversed." It was also moved and seconded—"That the synod find the presbytery of Ayr have in this manner acted properly, and that it should be remitted to them to take such further steps in this business as they may judge best." After reasoning at considerable length, the synod, without a vote, agreed to set aside the whole proceedings of the presbytery in this business; at the same time, sensible of the importance of the sanctification of the Sabbath, they recommend to all the members within their bounds, to be particularly attentive to it, and to beware how far they allow of cases of necessity, which may prove a stumbling-block to any of their parishioners.

A very large whale, 45 feet long, lately ran itself ashore on the banks of the Frith betwixt Alloa and Cambus, whence it was discovered by two ploughmen, who endeavoured for a long time to kill it with their knives, but without effect, the fish at the same time making dreadful exertions to get away. At last a surgeon pointed out the mortal part, by applying a spit, with which they effected their purpose. It is intended to get some vessel near it, to lift it to a proper spot for dissection.

Considerable damage has been lately sustained in different parts of the country occasioned by stormy weather. Accounts from the highlands of Perthshire state, that the devastation occasioned in that quarter was never equalled. It tore up from the roots whole clumps of aged trees, that served for more than a century back to add to the natural beauties of Taymouth Castle, the elegant seat of the Earl of Breadalbane. Many fine plantations in other parts of the country experienced the same fate; and several houses and corn-stacks were literally levelled with the ground. It is remarkable that in this quarter the gale seemed to be confined within a compass of 20 miles. Several persons were buried under the ruins of their huts.—In Berwickshire, the thunder struck upon a valuable court of offices belonging to Sir John Stewart, of Allanbank, which it materially injured. The lightning, which completely illuminated the neighbourhood, was followed in two seconds by a report like a cannon of the largest calibre, struck the building just under the cupola to an extent of 12 yards, driving in most of the solid wall. It then seemed to take a circle, ran up again to the clock-room, and along the roof to the other side of the building. There are ten holes made in the slated roof, six in the wall, three in the wall exactly as if they had been battered by cannon; the roof had much the same appearance; one of them is three feet long. Most providentially, a family sleeping in one of the rooms escaped with the dreadful fright only. The fire made its way out at two south windows, which it broke, as well as injured the work, and broke some other windows in the neighbourhood by the shock. The gardener's house was filled with a strong sulphurous smell. On the following day, the rivers in the neighbourhood of Moffat came down in torrents greater than were ever before remembered. Among other damages occasioned by them was a dreadful accident which befel the mail coach from Glasgow to Carlisle, at a place called Howclengh. Betwixt nine and ten o'clock at night, the coach had just got half way over the bridge, when it gave way in the middle arch, and the coach, passengers, horses, &c. were instantly precipitated into the river, down a fall of 35 or 40 feet. There were four inside and two outside passengers; the two outside and two of the horses were killed upon the spot, and the other passengers had a most miraculous escape; but we are sorry to say they are all of them very considerably hurt; the coachman and guard were also much hurt, the former had his arm broke, and otherwise much bruised, and the guard got a severe contusion on the head. Most fortunately the other coach from Carlisle to Glasgow was narrowly prevented from sharing the same fate;

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it arrived there just about the time the accident happened; from the darkness of the night, and the rate the coach necessarily goes at, must inevitably have gone into the river at the same breach in the arch, had not the cries of one of the sufferers given the alarm, by which they were enabled to save themselves from the same calamity. By the exertion of the coachman and guard of the other coach, the passengers who survived (a lady and three gentlemen), with the coachman and guard, that had fallen into the abyss, were enabled to extricate themselves, and conducted to a place of safety. The London mail and some other valuable articles in the coach were saved. One of the proprietor's servants, at the risk of his life, went down the precipice, suspended by a rope, and saved the life of the lady (one of the passengers) and recovered the mail bags, which must otherwise have been carried down the stream.

In digging where the foundation-stone of the new prison has been laid, in Forrester's Wynd, ten feet below the surface, the labourers found a gold coin of King James I. of Scotland; it is larger than a half-guinea, is in a capital state of preservation, and it is probable that it may have lain where it was found several centuries.

Married. At *Edinburgh*, Lewis Henry Farrier, Esq. of Belsyde, advocate, to Miss Monro, daughter of Dr. Alexander Monro, sen. of Craiglockhart.—David Meldrum, Esq. of Dron, to Miss Margaret Brodie, daughter of Mr. Archibold Brodie, of St. Andrews.—John Abercrombie, Esq. surgeon, to Agnes, daughter of the late David Wardlaw, Esq. of Netherbeath.—William Walker, Esq. Kincardine, to Magdalen, eldest daughter of Thomas Lawson, Esq. of Pitlethie.—At *Dunbar House*, Brigadier-General Houston; to Lady Jane Long, sister to the Earl of Lauderdale.—At *Dumaget*, Lieutenant Leveson Douglas Stewart, of the Royal Navy, second surviving son of the late Hon. Admiral Keith Stewart, of Glasserton, to Elizabeth, third daughter of Sir John Dalrymple Hay, Bart. of Park-place, Glenluce.

Died. At *Edinburgh*, the Right Hon. Isabella Countess Dowager of Errol.—The Rev. Thomas Murray, minister of Channelkirk.—At *Herriot's Hill*, aged 78, Robert Jamieson, Esq. sen. W. S.—At *Aberdeen*, aged 41, Keith Turner, Esq. of Turner-hall.—At *Dairy*, Mrs. Mary Fullerton, wife of the Rev. John Thomson, minister of that parish.—At *Brownfield*, aged 80, Mr. William Gray, late merchant in Glasgow.—At *Foyers*, Patrick Grant, Esq. of Glenmorriston.—At *Perth*, aged 85, Mrs. Scotland, widow of Mr. John Scotland, merchant, having but twelve days survived her sister, Mrs. Allison, who died at the age of 97.—Mrs. Agnes Yeaman, relict of the Rev. George Chapman, minister of Kinfauns.—At *Tanderghie*, Wigton, Hugh Stewart, Esq.—At *Port Patrick*, Valentine Jones, Esq. of Belfast; he was upwards of 80 years of age, and the day before he died, while walking in the street, he observed to his companion, "that if the wind did not soon come fair he should never see Ireland."—At *Lerwick*, Shetland, Catherine Yell, aged 102 years. She had been blind nine years, but retained all her other faculties.—In *Kintail*, aged 121, Alexander Macrae; this veteran has already been mentioned as the oldest man in Scotland by Sir John Sinclair, who gives the following account of him in the "Code of Health and Longevity."—"He was born in the year 1687, and lived with his father, who held a small portion of land as a tenant, until the age of nineteen, when he was employed as a forester, in which capacity he served for five years. At the age of twenty-four he married his first wife, and settled on his native farm, as a small tenant. By this wife he had four children: and she died after they had been married about fourteen years. In the year 1719, he fought under Lord Seaforth at the battle of Glensheal. About the year 1724, he enlisted as a private in the Scots brigade, serving in Holland, where he served seven years; the last two of which he was a prisoner in some town in France, the name of which he does not remember. In 1731, he returned again to his farm, and married a second wife, who died a few years after without bringing him any family. In the year 1765, he fell so low in circumstances, that he gave up his small farm, and procured subsistence by going about the country, from house to house, repeating *Ossian's Poems*. In 1773, he married his present wife, by whom he has three children, the last of which was born when he was aged 96. About twelve years ago, when still very stout, he was seized with a violent fever,

ver, by which he was deprived of the use of his limbs, and ever since he has been unable to walk. He is now (1805) confined to bed, deaf and blind; but his memory is still very correct. His general amusement is singing and repeating Ossian's compositions; but he repeats so fast, that it is impossible to write them down; and if interrupted, he must again return to the beginning of the poem. These are the most striking particulars of his life I have been able to collect from himself. He appears to have been a stout made, middle sized man, and still looks uncommonly well."

IRELAND.

The Roman Catholic Gentlemen of the county of Louth having addressed a letter to the Rev. Dr. O'Reilly, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, requesting to know his opinion of the Resolution entered into by the Roman Catholic Bishops lately assembled in Dublin, respecting the negative proposed to be given to the Crown, in the appointment of the Roman Catholic Bishops; Dr. O'Reilly has returned an answer, addressed to Viscount Southwell and Sir Edward Bellew, as representatives of the Roman Catholics of the county of Louth, in which he says—"I think, and am certain, that in forming their resolution, the prelates did not mean to decide, that the admission of a *veto* or *negative* on the part of the Crown, with the consent of the Holy See, in the election of Roman Catholic Bishops, would be contrary to the doctrine of the Roman Catholic Church, or to any practice or usage essentially and indispensably connected with the Roman Catholic religion. Candour, however, and truth, oblige me to say, that the declaration made by the Bishops on the above-mentioned occasion, was dictated by what I conceived to be a well-founded apprehension, that the concession in question might eventually be attended with consequences dangerous to the Roman Catholic religion; such danger, in my mind, and in the opinion of several other Prelates, is of a temporary nature, resulting from existing circumstances, though many persons suppose it to arise from the nature of the measure, thus giving to the resolution of the Bishops a meaning it does not bear."

At the assizes for the county of Tyrone, held at Omagh, an action was brought by Alexander Seton, Esq. a barrister at law, against a Mr. Wm. F. Graham, of Omagh, and which was tried before Judge Daly and a special jury. The declaration alleged, that the plaintiff brought his action against the defendant for defamation, and the publication of three several libels:—the first, a Resolution, dated 2d of April, 1807, of the Grand Lodge of Free Masons in Ireland, stating, that Alexander Seton had been expelled the Grand Lodge and Masonry in general—the second, cautioning the brethren against receiving or sanctioning certificates signed A. Seton, dated since 1st of May, 1806, as he had not held any office under the Grand Lodge since that period—and the third being the Resolutions of the Grand Lodge of England, dated London, Sept. 2, 1807, stating, that the Grand Lodge of England would not on any account receive or acknowledge any certificate issued by or under the hand of said Alexander Seton, dated any time subsequent to the 5th of June, 1806, nor should any person by virtue of such certificate be thereby received into any lodge under the Grand Lodge of England. The plaintiff laid his damages at 2,000*l.*; and the defendant pleaded the general issue.—The case was stated, on the part of the plaintiff, by Counsellor Rolleston, who, at great length, expatiated on the injury done to the character and property of the plaintiff, by thus stating to the public his expulsion from so ancient and respectable a society, and the natural ignominy and disgrace that would attach to his character, if the jury did not in damages prove to the country, and to the society, the falsehood of such a charge, and which only could be done by their verdict. The learned Counsel also stated, that by this action the right of the plaintiff would be proved to the situation of the Deputy Grand Secretaryship to the Free Masons of Ireland, and thereby instruct the members of the order where they ought to apply for such masonic documents as they had occasion for, the defendant having assumed upon himself the situation, and thereby claiming the fees that were attached to the office, and also in that right publishing and circulating the libels on which the present action was founded. The plaintiff then proved the publi-

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cation and circulation of the alleged libels, and after the examination of several witnesses, closed his case.—The learned Judge then intimated his opinion, that the plaintiff should be nonsuited—and the plaintiff having stated his determination to appear, and not submit, but leave the question to a jury of his country, the defendant's Counsel declared, that out of respect to the Court, they would not state any case, nor call any evidence.—The Judge, after a most able and eloquent charge, and having gone into every minutiæ of the evidence, directed the jury to find for the defendant. The jury retired, and, after some consideration, brought in a verdict for the defendant, with sixpence costs, thereby allowing the right of the Grand Lodge, and the justness and propriety of publishing the expulsion of its members, and clearly ascertaining the defendant to be its proper officer.

The value of imports into Ireland, for the year ending 5th Jan. 1808, was 6,687,907l. 16. 7½d. The exports for that year amounted, of Irish products and manufactures, to 507,307,906l. 16s. 4d.—and of foreign and colonial, to 150,370l. 8s. 8d.

Married. At *Cork*, the Rev. Charles J. Coghlan, to Miss Cummins, daughter of Nicholas Cummins, Esq.—At *Willsboro'*, Sligo, Benjamin Armstrong, Esq. of the Fermanagh Militia, to Miss Fausset, third daughter of Andrew Faussett, Esq.—At *Dromore*, Mr. William Rea, of Edenruary, at the advanced age of 73, to Miss Lucinda Lee, of Drumshee, aged 21.

Died. At *Dublin*, aged 84, the Rev. Dr. Blundell, Dean of Kildare.—James Vance, Esq. of Capel-street, one of the Aldermen of the corporation.—At *Ross-house*, Tipperary, aged 68, the Rev. Robert Peacock. He was nearly forty years rector and chancellor of Kiltenora, and served the curacy of Lurragh forty-nine years. At *Castle Dawson*, in the 106th year of her age, Mrs. Mary Richardson. She was attended to the grave by her children, grandchildren, great grand-children, and great great grand-children.

FOREIGN OCCURRENCES.

After a long cessation, Vesuvius has again begun to emit flames from the summit of its crater. This circumstance, and many other appearances, give reason to apprehend a speedy eruption.

Married. At *Gibraltar*, Francis Smith, Esq. of the county of Meath, Captain in the Royal Artillery, to Miss Holloway, eldest daughter of Lieut. Colonel Sir Charles Holloway.

Died. At *Vienna*, Steddy Grinfield, Esq. F.R.S. brother of the late Gen. Grinfield, and formerly a barrister of Lincoln's-inn.—At *Berlin*, aged 82, the Princess Wilhelmina, relict of Prince Henry of Prussia, brother of Frederick the Great.—At *Copenhagen*, Admiral Chapman, celebrated on the continent for his ability in naval architecture.—At *Florence*, on the 31st of July, aged 80, Signior Joseph Bencirenni. He had distinguished himself both in the belles lettres and public affairs. He had filled several important situations, and had been Director of the Gallery at Florence. He wrote an Historical Essay on that Gallery, several Eloges of illustrious persons in Tuscany, and a Life of Dante, which is in high estimation. He has left a great number of manuscripts.—At *Vienna*, aged 80, the Archduchess Elizabeth of Austria.—At *Bauenhoff*, aged 78, the Russian privy counsellor Count Von Sievers. His life was wholly devoted to the service of his country and of human kind. He enjoyed the confidence of the Empress Catharine in a very high degree, and in the early part of his life was employed in various missions of great importance. He expended large sums of money in erecting and endowing schools in Moscow; and many other cities and towns, and almost all the Russian universities, and Dorsatt in particular, are indebted to his bounty. To the latter he gave 48,000 roubles for the purpose of founding exhibitions. One of the last acts of his life was to destroy a number of bills and bonds signed by persons who might be put to inconvenience by enforcing payment of them.

Retrospect of Public Affairs.

Spain, to which the public eye was for some months turned with exultation for the present, and confident hopes for the future, has at length become a theatre of disappointment and apprehension, inspiring, if not despondency, at least the most anxious solicitude. A second evacuation of Bilboa by the French, and the advance of the Spanish army under General Blake, had given the expectation of some important success against the invaders before they could be reinforced; but they were so well posted and ably commanded, that every attempt to turn their flank proved ineffectual.

Napoleon, in the meantime, hastening back from Erfurth, summoned the legislative body of his empire, to whom he made a speech, purporting that the Emperor of Russia and he were unchangeably united as well for peace as for war—that he was thoroughly satisfied with the sentiments of the confederacy of the Rhine and the people of Italy—and that it was now his intention to place himself at the head of his army in order to crown the king of Spain (his brother) in Madrid, and plant his eagles on the Portuguese fortresses. It has never been his custom to threaten without being prepared to put his threats in execution. Though in his speech he said nothing of Austria, he was doubtless well assured that he had formed a sufficient barrier against any molestation from that quarter; and accordingly he had been withdrawing his veteran troops in great numbers from their German posts, and forwarding them to the Spanish frontier. He then went to Bayonne, and after a very short stay, proceeded to the head-quarters of his army at Vittoria, probably bringing with him reinforcements, but to what amount we are not informed.

The arrival of Napoleon was soon announced by the commencement of offensive operations on the part of the French. General Blake was attacked on October 30, and obliged to retreat after an obstinate engagement, and the French repossessed Bilboa. A column which they afterwards advanced against him was repulsed with loss, but this was only a temporary check. By the latest advices, of which the particulars have not yet been made public, it appears that Blake has since sustained an entire defeat; and that the French have pushed on to Burgos, and even, it is said, to Valladolid. Of the events in other quarters we are not exactly informed; but it can scarcely be doubted that the Spaniards will find it necessary to break up their whole line of defence upon the frontiers, now that it is turned in the north.

Meantime the English from Portugal and Corunna have been able to make but a very slow advance in a country destitute of almost every thing requisite for troops on their march; and it is said that General Moore's army is suffering greatly from sickness. If, as reported, he has reached Salamanca, he is not far from the French advanced guard at Valladolid. Nothing can be more critical than the posture of affairs in those parts, and further intelligence is impatiently expected.

The Portuguese seem to be in a disunited state, part of the nation acknowledging the Prince Regent, and part disowning his authority and adhering to the Bishop of Oporto. It is even said that there is a French party; and it is found expedient to retain a considerable body of English troops at Lisbon.

Another naval action has displayed the accustomed superiority of the British arms

arms upon their own element. The Amethyst frigate, of 36 guns, Capt. Seymour, on the 10th of November, off L'Orient, fell in with the Thetis French frigate, of 44 guns, bound for Martinique, with a large quantity of flour, and carrying a number of soldiers besides her full complement of seamen. A desperate engagement ensued, at the end of which the French ship, reduced almost to a wreck, struck, with the loss of 280 killed and wounded. The English had above 70 killed and wounded. Two other English ships came in sight at the close of the action, but it was fought by the Amethyst solely.

The armistice between Russia and Sweden in Finland was terminated by the former on October 19th, and before the end of the month a battle ensued, in which the Russians are said to have been routed, with the loss of Prince Dolgorucki.

King Ferdinand VII. has been proclaimed in the different parts of Spanish America; and the commander Linieres, at Buenos Ayres, though with apparent reluctance, has been obliged to concur in the measure.

In the United States the contention continues to be very acrimonious between the supporters and opposers of the embargo. The President steadily employs all his influence in maintaining it; and no change of any kind will be effected till the approaching meeting of Congress, when it will doubtless be a subject of early and warm discussion.

At home the public interest has been chiefly occupied with the proceedings of the Board of Enquiry into the Convention of Cintra, and the steps leading to it. The sittings are open, and appear to be conducted with perfect fairness. It would be premature to form a judgment on the probable result; yet, from what has transpired, the expedience of a convention for the evacuation of Portugal by the French, under the existing circumstances, seems likely to be established, whatever be thought of particular articles, or of the general conduct of the expedition.

Some discontent has been produced in the city of London by the refusal of the Lord Mayor to call a Common-hall in order to take into consideration the Convention in Portugal. As the public enquiry into that proceeding was actually commenced, his Lordship thought such a measure unnecessary and improper. Indeed, the real object of the requisition could only be to express that dissatisfaction which the answer to the city address to his Majesty on the subject so unadvisedly excited, and which has been strongly manifested in other addresses on the same occasion.

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

The outward-bound West India fleet, which we mentioned in our last as having been detained at Cork by order of Vice Admiral Whitshed, had sailed from thence on the 3d inst. under convoy of the Sparrow sloop of war. The whole fleet consisted of 47 sail. We have also to announce the sailing of the African and Brazil convoys from Portsmouth.

The Court of Directors have announced for sale, on Monday, the 5th Dec. 1808, prompt 3d March, 1809, the following quantities of tea; viz. Bohea, 500,000lbs.; Congou and Campoi, 4,350,000 lbs.; Pekoe and Souchong, 300,000 lbs.; Singlo and Twankay, 850,000 lbs.; Hyson Skin, 100,000 lbs.; Hyson, 300,000lbs.; making a total, including private trade, of 6,400,000 lbs. They have also declared for sale, on Friday, 2d Dec. 1808, 935 bags of prize coffee.

This

This coffee is the same which was announced for sale on the 24th of August last, but afterwards withdrawn.

Sugars of all kinds have experienced a very considerable advance since our last, which we attribute chiefly to the appearance of the distillers in the market, by whom considerable purchases have been made: prices are, in consequence, above 80s. per cwt. This, however, is still insufficient to indemnify the planter; for it has been satisfactorily shewn, by evidence before a Committee of the House of Commons, that 90s. per cwt. is the price below which it cannot be sold without injury to the planter.

It was with satisfaction, therefore, we observed in the Gazette of the 19th inst. a proclamation for continuing to the 31st of December next the order contained in the act passed in the last session of parliament for prohibiting the distillation of spirits from corn or grain, and for further continuing it from that period until forty days after the meeting of parliament.

The propriety and justice of this measure is moreover sufficiently established by the present high prices of grain; and we trust it will be continued as long as these prices remain high.

Coffee has experienced a considerable advance. The best kind is now selling at 140s.; middling qualities fetch from 110s. to 120s.; and ordinary 95s. to 110s. per cwt. This article, in consequence of the late remission of duties, is now getting into very general use; indeed it cannot be too strongly recommended, both on the score of domestic comfort and national advantage. As a beverage it has long formed an important article with the inhabitants of the continent of Europe, where its prevalent and extended consumption, until checked by the recent impediments to commerce, were the best proofs of its grateful and salutary qualities.

At the Company's late sale of spices, cinnamon sold from 3s. 7d. to 7s. 4d. per lb. mace from 13s. to 36s. 6d. nutmegs from 7s. 7d. to 21s. 6d. and cloves from 4s. 4d. to 6s. 6d. per lb. subject to the customary duties, if for home consumption. Their sugar, put up at the same sale, is quoted from 30s. to 42s. 6d. per cwt. exclusive of duties. Silks upon the whole sold for lower prices than at the Company's March sale.

By an ordinance lately issued by the Prince of the Brazils, all goods imported into that country in Portugueze shipping are to be subject to a duty of 16 per cent. ad valorem, while those imported in the ships of other nations are to be made liable to a duty of 24 per cent. In consequence of the very large supplies of goods with which that market has been lately overstocked, commodities in general were selling to considerable disadvantage. The attention of our merchants and manufacturers is now chiefly directed to the supplying of the Spanish colonies of Cuba, the Caraccas, and the Main: these, we trust, will long prove a valuable source of employment for the trade and manufactures of this country.

The Commissioners appointed under the Act for granting certain duties on Property and Profits arising from Trade, have issued a notice to the West India merchants and others, requiring them under certain penalties to give in a return of the proceeds of all such colonial produce as may have gone through their hands since the passing of the Act; after which, it is apprehended, that they will be called upon for 10 per cent. upon the nett amount of what they may have received. This notice has excited a considerable degree of embarrassment amongst our merchants, as they alledge that it will be difficult to ascertain from the planter the actual amount of the expences incurred by him in rearing the produce in question. It certainly appears but reasonable that these expences should be deducted from the proceeds.

Trade has been remarkably brisk at Glasgow during the last two months. Cotton yarns spun at the mill have advanced fully 70 per cent. and muslins and prints are in great demand amongst the buyers; indeed, the calendars are kept constantly at work in dressing goods to be shipped for the West Indies. At the last Chester fair, which was held on the 31st ult. fine Irish linens sold at the usual prices; goods of inferior quality were, however, in greater demand, and yielded about 2d. per yard higher. Muslins and Manchester goods were also in considerable demand, and produced good prices. Woollens sold tolerably well.

From

From Holland we learn that measures of additional rigour have been lately put in force, for the purpose of cutting off all commercial intercourse with Great Britain; and such is Bonaparte's jealousy of the introduction of British commodities, that a proclamation has been lately issued, allowing 40 per cent. to all persons who shall inform upon such goods as they can prove to be the produce or manufacture of this country. A considerable seizure, we understand, has been made at Scheveling. The decree published a few weeks ago, permitting the exportation of butter, cheese, and other articles, the produce of that country, has been lately revoked; even those vessels which were provided with a licence to sail with cargoes of the above description, were not allowed to take the benefit thereof after the 15th of this month, under any pretext whatsoever. There have been great fluctuation in Holland in the prices of various articles of merchandize. Raw coffee is selling at 4s. 6d. per lb. Sugars of all kinds are quoted at high prices. Bark had fallen very considerably in price; namely, from 60 to 25 guilders per lb. Of this latter article a large supply was exported from this country by licence about two months ago.

The Directors of the Bank some time ago gave notice to the gentlemen of the Stock Exchange, that the Commissioners for purchasing stock for the redemption of the national debt would in future purchase on every transfer day 32,000l. in the 4 per cent. Consols, instead of buying in the 3 per cent. Consols, as had been usually the custom.

Stocks have experienced but little variation since our last.

PRICE OF STOCKS.

Bank Stock	237½
India Stock	183⅛
3 per Cent. reduced	66
3 per Cent. Cons.	66⅜ ⅜
4 per Cent. Cons.	81 ¼ ⅞
5 per Cent. Ann.	99⅛ ⅞
Bank Long Annuities	18 1 16
Imp. 3 per Cent. Ann.	65⅛
Ditto Annuities	7⅛
Omnium	¼ d.
Exchequer Bills	7 9 p.
Consols for Ac.	66⅛
Irish 5 per Cent.	95⅛

The Average Prices of Navigable Canal Shares, Dock Stock, Fire Office Shares, &c. in Nov. 1808; *at the Office of Mr. Scott*, 28, *New Bridge-street, London.*

Trent and Mersey, or *Grand Trunk Canal*, 980l. per share, dividing 40l. per share per ann. nett.—*Ditto Mortgages*, at 5l. per cent. discount.—*Grand Junction Canal*, 127l. to 128l. per share; the last half-yearly dividend was 2l. nett.—*Ditto Loan Notes*, 6l. per cent. discount.—*Ashton and Oldham*, 100l. per share.—*Kennet and Avon*, 23l. 10s. for 20l. paid.—*London Dock Stock*, 120l. to 121l. per cent.—*West India Dock*, 162l. to 165l.—*Commercial Dock*, 127l.—*East India Dock*, 124l. 10s.—*Globe Insurance*, 114l. to 116l.—*Provident Institution*, par.—*Monmouth*, 100l.—*Huddersfield*, 19l.—*East London Water Works*, 45l. premium.

AGRICULTURAL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER.

Farmers generally employed in ploughing, surface draining, hedging and ditching, and the retentive soils generally inclined to be wet. The young wheats look universally well, nor have we had a complaint from any quarter. All wheat sowing at an end, and we believe very little left for early spring. Rye, cole, cabbages, winter barley, and the cattle crops in general have a very promising appearance; not so the turnips, which, with some exceptions, are generally a thin crop, and will deceive those greatly in the spring whose dependance is upon them. In fact, should the weather be severe, we must expect a trying spring indeed for sheep feed.

Although wheat is now falling in Mark-lane, probably on account of the Christmas term, there is little doubt of its being very dear in the spring, from its

its light and indifferent quality, and the very considerable demand which may be expected. It is, perhaps, not clear that our foreign demand for wheat can be supplied in the Mediterranean, and, at any rate, our troops, and probably those of our Spanish allies, must be supplied from hence with potatoes, oats, and hay, whence a great rise must be expected on those articles. We have not heard as to the certainty of our reimbursement, at all events; but we well know that articles of the first necessity are likely to become dear enough to our poor at home.

The high price of wheat has drawn so much of that article to market, that little barley has hitherto been sent. in course the price of barley has been above the mark it is likely to preserve. The crop of oats in the fens has been large, but, like the wheat, the sample proves light. The fairs have been generally full of stock, yet the prices high. Government contracts keep up all prices.

Smithfield. Beef, 4s. to 5s. 6d. Mutton, 4s. to 6s. Veal, 5s. to 7s. House Lamb, 15s. to 20s. Pork, 5s. to 6s. 8d. Bacon, 6s. 8d. Irish do. 5s. 8d. Fat, 6s. 8d. Skins 25s. to 35s.

FROM ANOTHER CORRESPONDENT.

The mild and open weather we have had during the greater part of the preceding month has been favourable to vegetation, and the winter green crops of wheat, tares, turnips, and rye look kind and flourishing.

On dry soils a large breadth of land has been prepared for peas and barley; and the operations usual at this season of the year of laying manure on the meadows, hedging and ditching, have been carried on to a great extent, and the spare hands are employed in the barns and threshing-mills, which last are now come into use on most large farms, and are almost universally found to answer, doing their work effectually. At the late fairs cows and calves sold well. In lean cattle and store sheep but little variation, sales being dull. Fresh horses and porking pigs are the only stock which now obtain good prices, being much in request.

PRICE OF GRAIN.

	ENGLAND AND WALES.		SCOTLAND.	
	s.	*d.*	*s.*	*d.*
Wheat	91	7	79	5
Rye	56	2	51	2
Barley	45	3	38	4
Oats	33	2	29	7
Beans	65	11	60	8
Pease	67	9	62	3
Oatmeal	49	6	26	1
Bigg	—	—	32	10

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We beg leave to suggest to a respected Correspondent, that his argument relative to the commencement of the reign of Tiberius would appear with much greater force, could he produce any historical or chronological authority for its having been actually reckoned according to the computation he proposes.

The following pieces are left at Messrs. Longman's and Co.'s for return:

Prose.—*Antigrapheus. P. Touchstone. Letter on a Passage in Comus (anticipated by a Note of Warburton's). Metaphysical Elements. B. J. C.*

Verse.—*J. H. W. J. C. Gwareni. Imitation from the Spanish.*

ERRATUM.

In the Dew-drop, p. 458, for "*below* the baleful breath" read *before*.

INDEX TO THE FOURTH VOLUME.

Aberdeen University, account of, 487
Adventure, singular, 127
Æschylus, account of, 225, 321
Agricultural Reports, 95, 191, 287, 383, 479, 565
Amadis, Spanish editor of, 125
Animals in Paradise, list of, 224
———, foreign remarks on introducing certain kinds of, into England, 542
Anthology, Greek, translations from, 38, 133, 230
Arts, rewards distributed by the society for the encouragement of, 1808, 57
Arts and Manufactures, intelligence relative to, 65, 153, 255, 348, 446, 536
Augsburgh, account of, in the sixteenth century, 301
Austrians, military character of, 114
Barbauld, Rev. R. obit. of, 544
Bath, Countess of, Obit of, 176
Biblical remarks, 299
Biography, mercantile, suggestions for, 495
Birds singing by night, 218
Blake, memorial due to, 29
Bodleian Library, account of some MSS. in, 134, 232
Books, account of rare and curious, 41, 134, 232, 325, 422, 518
Boswell, Mr. J. W. account of his new invented capstan, 258
———, particulars relative to the ship Economy, built under his direction, 349
Buchanan, Mr. R. on drying &c. by steam, 158
Cambridge University press, state of, 340
Canal shares, prices of, 95, 191, 286, 383, 478, 565
Cant, remarks on a species of, 16, reply to do., 121
Cappe, Mrs. on Charlotte Richardson, 217
———, answer to Inquiries, 401
Carriages, reports of house of commons relative to, 446, 536
Carter, Sir John, Obit. of, 74
Citis, account of the draining of the pond of, 260
Clarendon press, account of the present state of, 250
Classical Disquisitions, 32, 128, 225, 320, 116, 513
Cobb, Mr. account of his air jacket, &c. for swimming, 450
Cocoa cordage, account of, 125
Cold bathing for fevers, practised by the Indians, 223
Collectanea Oxoniensia, or extracts of letters in the Bodleian library, 570
Comfort and comfortable, remarks on the terms, 319, 393
Commercial reports, monthly, 93, 189, 284, 381, 476, 563
Consolation, a topic of, 297
Copyer of books, account of the payment of one, 224
Cordara, L'Abbe, memoirs of, 238
Corille, Olympica, memoirs of, 138
Cortes, anecdote of, 31
Covent Garden Theatre, destroyed by fire, 357
Cowan, Cap. particulars relative to his patent sails, 457
Crabb, Mr. his proposal relative to a new English Dictionary, 310
Curr, Mr. on spinning hemp for cordage, 449
Davy, professor, account of his discoveries respecting metals, 257
Death, metaphorical, 10
Degrees, University, remarks on, 414
Dickson, Mr. J. account of his improvements in the construction of cocks, 255
Domestic Occurrences, 76, 159, 264, 357, 454, 543
Donkin, Mr. B. his mode of producing rotary motion, 65
Dramatic Poetry, Greek, account of, 128
Duelling, remarks on, 1
Dyer, Mr. on curious MSS. 41, 134, 232, 325, 415
Euripides, account of, 515
Female manners, observations on, 204
Feroe Islands, description of, 199, 292, 388, 483
Foreign Occurrences, 90, 183, 279, 376, 473, 561
French, military character of, 112
Fruit trees, on clearing from moss, 71